

12:14:40:04 >> WELCOME TO THE MARCH 14TH,
12:14:45:03 2024 PUBLIC HEARING ON THE
12:14:46:24 SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED FISCAL
12:14:48:05 YEAR 2025 BUDGET.
12:14:50:07 THIS MEETING IS NOW IN SESSION.
12:14:51:19 THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE
12:14:53:04 SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED FISCAL
12:14:54:16 YEAR 2025 BUDGET IS BEING HELD
12:15:01:11 AND SPEAKERS MAY ADDRESS THE
12:15:03:03 BOARD OF THIS TOPIC ONLY.
12:15:05:05 TONIGHT WE HAVE 31 SPEAKERS, BUT
12:15:06:21 BEFORE WE BEGIN, I'M GOING TO
12:15:08:03 INVITE ANDREW WHO IS A FIRST
12:15:09:29 GRADER FROM CLAREMONT TO LEAD US
12:15:12:05 IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
12:15:19:29 [TOGETHER]
12:15:21:03 >> I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE
12:15:21:03 FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF
12:15:21:03 AMERICA AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR
12:15:21:03 WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION
12:15:21:03 UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH
12:15:21:03 LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.
12:15:22:21 [Applause]
12:15:45:06 >> THANK YOU SO MUCH, ANDREW,
12:15:47:05 THAT WAS WELL DONE!
12:15:49:03 [Applause]
12:15:49:03 BEFORE WE MOVE ON WITH THE
12:15:51:05 PUBLIC HEARING, WE HAVE ONE
12:15:54:05 QUICK CONSENT ITEM.
12:15:56:03 >> I MOVE TO ADOPT THE CONSENT
12:15:57:26 AGENDA.
12:15:58:13 >> SECOND.
12:15:59:04 >> ALL IN FAVOR, PLEASE SAY YES.
12:16:02:07 [CHORUS OF AYES]
12:16:02:10
12:16:15:04 >> ANY OPPOSED SAY NO.
12:16:17:20 MOTION PASSES 5-0.
12:16:20:16 SO UNDER CONSENT, THE SCHOOL
12:16:21:27 BOARD ADOPTED REVISIONS TO THE
12:16:26:26 SCHOOL BOARD POLICY AND
12:16:27:23 PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION AT
12:16:28:28 LAST WEEK'S BOARD MEETING.
12:16:31:27 THE REVISIONS WILL ENABLE THE
12:16:33:05 CHAIR TO TAKE A LEAVE OF ABSENCE
12:16:34:21 FROM DUTIES AS CHAIR AND ALLOW
12:16:36:00 THE VICE CHAIR TO SERVE AS
12:16:38:05 INTERIM CHAIR DURING THE ABSENCE
12:16:40:04 AS WELL AS ENABLE THE BOARD TO
12:16:41:19 ELECT AN INTERIM VICE CHAIR

12:16:43:17 SHOULD THEY CHOOSE FOR THE
12:16:45:01 DURATION OF THAT ABSENCE.
12:16:47:03 WE MAY BE USING THAT POLICY
12:16:48:15 SOON!
12:16:49:19 [LAUGHTER]
12:16:50:09 FOR REASONS!
12:16:53:10 I WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THE
12:16:55:29 SCHOOL BOARD WILL HOLD BUDGET
12:16:57:21 WORK SESSIONS ON MARCH 19TH.
12:16:59:07 THE SCHEDULE WILL BE AS FOLLOWS.
12:17:03:06 ALL OF THESE WORK SESSIONS WILL
12:17:04:21 TAKE PLACE IN THE BOARDROOM
12:17:06:26 RIGHT HERE.
12:17:08:17 FROM 10:45 TO 12:15 p.m.
12:17:13:04 NUMBER 3 FROM 1 TO 2:30 p.m.
12:17:15:10 AND BUDGET WORK SESSION NUMBER 4
12:17:18:08 FROM 245 p.m. TO 4 p.m.
12:17:22:01 WE WELCOME COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.
12:17:24:00 PLEASE SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK BY
12:17:25:11 WRITING TO
12:17:26:05 .schoolboard.board@APS.
12:17:34:29 We will continue to refine the
12:17:36:14 budget and on April 11th, we
12:17:38:09 will approve the school board's
12:17:40:00 proposed budget.
12:17:41:15 And the board will then hold a
12:17:42:24 PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SCHOOL
12:17:43:21 BOARD'S PROPOSED BUDGET ON
12:17:46:00 APRIL 23RD.
12:17:47:18 WE ARE AIMING TO ADOPT OUR FINAL
12:17:49:27 FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET ON MAY
12:17:52:02 9TH, HOWEVER THAT IS PENDING
12:17:53:28 FINAL BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS
12:17:56:06 FROM THE STATE.
12:17:57:07 WE WILL COMMUNICATE IF THAT ENDS
12:17:58:22 UP BEING DELAYED.
12:18:00:11 THE FULL SCHEDULE OF BOARD
12:18:01:15 MEETINGS AND BUDGET WORK
12:18:02:20 SESSIONS IS POSTED ON OUR
12:18:03:29 WEBSITE.
12:18:04:27 SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS AND WORK
12:18:05:15 SESSIONS ARE LIVESTREAMED AND
12:18:06:27 THE RECORDINGS ARE POSTED ON THE
12:18:08:03 WEBSITE AS WELL AS THE
12:18:08:28 TRANSCRIPTS ARE POSTED ON THE
12:18:10:13 WEBSITE AFTER THE MEETINGS.
12:18:11:16 SO WITH THAT, WE ARE AT PUBLIC
12:18:12:28 COMMENT FOR THIS SESSION.
12:18:14:27 PLEASE TURN YOUR ATTENTION TO

12:18:15:18 THE TVS FOR THE AETV STUDENT
12:18:18:27 PRODUCED VIDEO TO NOW REVIEW THE
12:18:21:27 PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES.
12:18:24:07 [VIDEO IS CAPTIONED]
12:21:15:23 >> OKAY, I'LL BEGIN BY CALLING
12:21:17:05 THE FIRST FIVE SPEAKERS TO LINE
12:21:18:24 UP.
12:21:20:22 SARAH, THOMAS, NOEL, ELLEN, AND
12:21:25:18 ZELA.
12:21:27:17 FIRST SPEAKER, SARAH.
12:21:28:21 NEXT SPEAKER, THOMAS.
12:21:56:05 >> HEY, THERE.
12:21:57:03 MY NAME IS THOMAS AND I'M GOING
12:21:59:01 TO TALK ABOUT -- OR I WANT TO
12:22:01:20 SPEAK ABOUT THE BUDGET FOR T.J.
12:22:03:18 SO I'M A SOPHOMORE AT T.J. RIGHT
12:22:05:24 NOW AND OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS
12:22:07:00 THAT I'VE BEEN THERE, I THINK
12:22:08:15 IT'S BEEN A FANTASTIC EXPERIENCE
12:22:09:20 FOR ME PERSONALLY THAT I DON'T
12:22:12:02 THINK I WOULD HAVE EXPERIENCED
12:22:13:07 AT ANY OF THE OTHER HIGH SCHOOLS
12:22:14:21 IN ARLINGTON.
12:22:15:13 AND I PERSONALLY THINK THAT IF
12:22:16:22 WE DIMINISH OR DO AWAY WITH THE
12:22:18:08 FUNDING FOR THOMAS JEFFERSON, IT
12:22:20:06 WOULD BE A SHAME FOR ALL THE
12:22:21:12 STUDENTS IN ARLINGTON WHO ARE
12:22:22:20 CURRENTLY THERE OR WHO CURRENT
12:22:23:22 ARE WANTING TO ATTEND IT IN THE
12:22:25:12 FUTURE.
12:22:26:23 T.J. HAS GIVEN ME THE UNIQUE
12:22:28:21 OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT WITH
12:22:29:26 STUDENTS ALL ACROSS NORTHERN
12:22:31:10 VIRGINIA AND TO SHARE MY LOVE
12:22:32:16 FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.
12:22:33:21 BEFORE I CAME TO T.J., I DID
12:22:44:07 THEATER FOR MANY YEARS AND WHEN
12:22:45:16 I ACTUALLY JOINED THEATER IN
12:22:48:01 T.J., I REALIZED HOW MUCH
12:22:49:17 SCIENCE IS ACTUALLY INVOLVED IN
12:22:50:12 IT AND I WAS ABLE TO EXPLORE MY
12:22:52:14 PASSIONS FOR ENGINEERING WHILE
12:22:53:22 ALSO DOING THINGS I LOVED.
12:22:55:11 I WAS ALSO SHOCKED AT THE WIDE
12:22:57:12 VARIETY OF CLASSES T.J. OFFERS.
12:23:00:02 I'VE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO
12:23:00:20 CONNECT WITH SOME WONDERFUL
12:23:01:28 PEOPLE WHO I DON'T THINK I EVER

12:23:03:19 WOULD HAVE MET OTHERWISE.
12:23:11:17 IF WE CUT DOWN THE FUNDING, IT
12:23:15:25 WOULD BE A GREAT LOSS.
12:23:17:07 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:23:18:18 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:23:19:20 >> NOEL?
12:23:27:21 >> GOOD EVENING.
12:23:29:06 DR. DURAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
12:23:30:07 SCHOOL BOARD, THANK YOU FOR
12:23:31:08 TAKING THE TIME TO HEAR FROM ME
12:23:32:18 TODAY.
12:23:33:09 MY NAME IS NAOMI AND I'M AN
12:23:36:10 ARLINGTON RESIDENT AND SOPHOMORE
12:23:38:05 AT THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL.
12:23:45:09 THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL WAS
12:23:46:03 THE PLACE FOR ME AND IT WAS ONLY
12:23:47:26 RIGHT THAT I APPLY.
12:23:49:01 HOWEVER, WHEN I RECEIVED MY
12:23:50:03 ACCEPTANCE, I HAD NO INTENTION
12:23:51:25 OF ATTENDING AND IT WASN'T UNTIL
12:23:54:00 I VISITED THE SCHOOL THAT I
12:23:55:09 AGREED WITH THEM AND I KNEW I
12:23:57:02 HAD TO GO.
12:23:58:14 OVER THE LAST ONE-AND-A-HALF
12:23:59:21 YEARS, I'VE BEEN GIVEN A
12:24:02:03 MULTITUDE OF OPPORTUNITIES.
12:24:05:26 AS PART OF THE MULTIDISCIPLINARY
12:24:08:13 PROGRAM, FRESHMEN ARE REQUIRED
12:24:09:29 TO TAKE A DESIGN AND TECH CLASS
12:24:11:18 AND THROUGH THAT, I DISCOVERED
12:24:13:10 MY INTEREST AND PASSION FOR
12:24:14:15 ENGINEERING.
12:24:15:16 AS OUR CULMINATING PROJECT, WE
12:24:18:05 BUILT AND CODED A ROBOT FROM
12:24:20:11 SCRATCH TO GO THROUGH A MAZE.
12:24:24:21 WHILE ARLINGTON DOES HAVE SENIOR
12:24:26:05 EXPERIENCE, T.J. SENIORS DO GET
12:24:29:11 THE UNIQUE EXPERIENCE OF
12:24:30:22 CONDUCTING A RESEARCH PROJECT IN
12:24:32:04 A FIELD OF THEIR CHOICE SUCH AS
12:24:33:26 ENGINEERING OR NEUROSCIENCE.
12:24:35:18 ADDITIONALLY, THERE IS AN OPTION
12:24:36:20 TO WORK IN MENTORSHIP AT AN
12:24:39:00 OUTSIDE RESEARCH INSTITUTION.
12:24:41:29 WHATEVER THEY END UP CHOOSING,
12:24:43:07 TJ'S CONNECTIONS TO LABS AND
12:24:45:17 RESEARCHERS HELP EVERY STEP OF
12:24:47:15 THE WAY.
12:24:48:03 I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU HAVE NOT

12:24:49:01 RELEASED A BUDGET CUTTING ANY
12:24:50:20 FUNDING FOR ARLINGTON STUDENTS
12:24:51:18 WHO ATTEND TJ.
12:24:53:00 I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT IN
12:24:56:24 PREPARING A BUDGET, YOU MUST
12:24:58:16 BALANCE COMPETING INTERESTS, BUT
12:25:00:02 WHEN PREPARING THE BUDGET, I ASK
12:25:01:28 YOU TO REMEMBER THAT FUNDING FOR
12:25:03:07 TJ IS NOT MONEY TAKEN AWAY FROM
12:25:05:20 ARLINGTON BUT RATHER FOR
12:25:07:11 ARLINGTON STUDENTS AND
12:25:08:05 DEMONSTRATES YOUR COMMITMENT TO
12:25:09:10 PROVIDING FOR THE EDUCATIONAL
12:25:11:05 NEEDS OF EVERY CHILD IN
12:25:12:10 ARLINGTON.
12:25:15:01 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:25:16:09 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:25:17:00 >> ELLEN SOMERS?
12:25:24:16 >> NEXT SPEAKER, ZELA MADLER.
12:25:32:24 >> I'M ALSO A SOPHOMORE AT
12:25:38:21 THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL FOR
12:25:39:22 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND I
12:25:40:17 WANT TO SPEAK ON THE BUDGETING
12:25:42:06 ISSUE CONCERNING MY SCHOOL.
12:25:44:01 A BATTLE WAS RECENTLY WON AND IT
12:25:45:14 WE WANT ALL THE WAY TO THE
12:25:46:28 SUPREME COURT ACTUALLY TO MAKE
12:25:48:00 ADMISSIONS FOR FAIR SO STUDENTS
12:25:49:29 FROM DIFFERENT DISTRICTS AND
12:25:51:24 DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS INCLUDING
12:25:53:12 MANY STUDENTS FROM APS CAN
12:25:55:17 ATTEND MY SCHOOL.
12:25:56:12 I WANT TO THANK THE BOARD FOR
12:25:57:10 KEEPING THE AMAZING
12:25:58:18 OPPORTUNITIES AT TJ IN NEXT
12:26:00:17 YEAR'S BUDGET. I REALLY LOVE
12:26:02:09 TJ.
12:26:03:21 TO BE HONEST, I HAVE MET SOME OF
12:26:05:06 THE BEST, SMARTEST, MOST AWESOME
12:26:07:12 PEOPLE I KNOW.
12:26:08:20 AND I'VE LEARNED SO, SO MUCH.
12:26:11:19 TECH SCHOOLS LIKE TJ SERVE AS
12:26:13:04 HUBS OF INNOVATION AND THINKING
12:26:14:16 AND IN THIS MODERN ERA WHERE
12:26:17:15 THERE ARE CONSTANT TECHNOLOGICAL
12:26:18:29 ADVANCES, CREATING A WORKFORCE
12:26:21:22 PROFICIENT IN S.T.E.M. FIELDS IS
12:26:23:07 VERY, VERY IMPORTANT.
12:26:25:03 MY SCHOOL PROVIDES SPECIALIZED

12:26:26:14 EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN
12:26:28:06 S.T.E.M. DISCIPLINES AND GIVES
12:26:29:20 OPPORTUNITIES TO DO
12:26:30:24 COLLEGE-LEVEL RESEARCH WHILE
12:26:32:03 STILL BEING A HIGH SCHOOL
12:26:33:04 STUDENT.
12:26:34:18 THIS EQUIPS STUDENTS WITH THE
12:26:37:15 SKILLS NECESSARY TO THRIVE IN A
12:26:38:20 TECHNOLOGY-DRIVEN ECONOMY.
12:26:40:05 WHY WOULDN'T WE WANT TO GIVE
12:26:41:07 THIS AMAZING OPPORTUNITY TO APS
12:26:43:12 STUDENTS?
12:26:45:16 IN MY PERSONAL EXPERIENCE, I
12:26:46:17 HAVE THRIVED IN THE COMPETITIVE
12:26:48:09 ENVIRONMENT AT TJ.
12:26:50:14 BOTH TEACHERS AND STUDENTS PUSH
12:26:51:15 ME TO BE BETTER AND WORK TO
12:26:53:03 ACHIEVE MY GOALS, EVEN THOUGH WE
12:26:55:06 HAVE A LOT OF NERDY
12:26:56:11 EXTRACURRICULARS LIKE SPEED
12:26:59:00 RUBIK'S CUBING AND QUIZ BOWL.
12:27:02:22 WE ALSO HAVE EVERYTHING A NORMAL
12:27:04:00 HIGH SCHOOL HAS TO OFFER AND
12:27:05:05 WE'RE A COMMUNITY.
12:27:06:03 I'M ON THE SOFTBALL TALE AND
12:27:07:06 I'VE MADE GREAT MEMORIES WITH MY
12:27:08:28 FRIENDS WHILE STILL BEING IN
12:27:10:16 ADVANCED CLASSES.
12:27:12:01 OUR HOMECOMING IS SUPER AWESOME
12:27:13:16 AND IT'S A NORMAL HIGH SCHOOL.
12:27:17:02 WE DO ALL SORTS OF EVENTS LIKE
12:27:19:00 FLOAT AND WE REALLY LIKE TO TAKE
12:27:21:09 THINGS TO THE NEXT LEVEL.
12:27:23:27 THIS YEAR, MY CLASS ACTUALLY
12:27:25:15 MADE A FLOAT WITH A GIANT
12:27:27:03 TURNING MANNEQUIN BASED ON THE
12:27:29:06 BARBIE MOVIE AND IT WAS BUILT IN
12:27:31:12 MY GARAGE.
12:27:35:02 I LOVE MY SCHOOL AND --
12:27:36:23 [BUZZER]
12:27:38:08 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:27:40:09 FOR THE RECORD, SPEED RUBIK'S
12:27:41:27 CUBING IS NOT THAT WEIRD!
12:27:43:06 [LAUGHTER]
12:27:45:10 >> I'LL CALL THE NEXT FIVE
12:27:46:22 SPEAKERS TO LINE UP.
12:27:50:00 [CALLING NAMES]
12:27:53:19 NEXT SPEAKER, ELLIOT ROSENBERG.
12:28:01:12 >> HELLO.

12:28:02:16 MY NAME IS ELLIOT ROSENBERG AND
12:28:05:05 I ALSO HAPPEN TO GO TO TJ.
12:28:09:07 I WANT TO THANK YOU ALL FOR THIS
12:28:10:06 OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK IN FRONT OF
12:28:11:11 YOU TODAY.
12:28:12:15 I WANT TO SAY ARLINGTON HAS SOME
12:28:14:06 OF THE BEST PUBLIC EDUCATION IN
12:28:15:14 THE STATE IN PART DUE TO THE
12:28:17:03 WIDE VARIETY OF SCHOOLS THAT
12:28:18:04 STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO.
12:28:20:00 SCHOOLS SUCH AS WNL, ARLINGTON
12:28:22:02 TECH, HB WOODLAWN AND THE
12:28:23:21 SUBJECT OF MY TALK, TJ, PROVIDE
12:28:27:00 INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITIES TO ANY
12:28:28:25 STUDENT.
12:28:30:06 TO ME, HAVING THIS CHANCE TO DO
12:28:31:12 MORE IN MY LIMITED SCHOOL CAREER
12:28:33:13 IS ONE OF THE BEST PARTS OF THIS
12:28:35:05 COUNTY.
12:28:35:26 I THINK STUDENTS HAVING ACCESS
12:28:36:24 TO THESE GREAT ALTERNATIVE HIGH
12:28:38:05 SCHOOLS IS SOMETHING THAT HELPS
12:28:39:20 MAKE ARLINGTON A GREATER PLACE,
12:28:41:12 EVEN IF TJ IS LOCATED IN A
12:28:43:08 DIFFERENT COUNTY.
12:28:43:26 I STILL THINK OF IT AS A PART OF
12:28:45:25 AND A BENEFIT FOR ARLINGTON
12:28:47:27 COUNTY.
12:28:49:11 SO THANK YOU FOR INCLUDING
12:28:50:25 FUNDING TO KEEP SENDING
12:28:52:07 PASSIONATE STUDENTS TO TJ.
12:28:54:06 THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.
12:28:55:21 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:28:56:29 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:28:57:24 >> AMELIA WALDMAN.
12:29:04:18 >> HELLO, MY NAME IS AMELIA AND
12:29:06:21 I'M CURRENT A JUNIOR AT THOMAS
12:29:09:02 JEFFERSON.
12:29:09:24 I WENT TO BARCROFT ELEMENTARY
12:29:11:09 AND WILLIAMSBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL
12:29:12:24 AND IT WAS THROUGH APS I WAS
12:29:14:12 TRULY INSPIRED TO PURSUE A
12:29:15:21 S.T.E.M. EDUCATION.
12:29:16:19 AS AN ARLINGTON STUDENT, I'M SO
12:29:18:01 FORTUNATE TO LIVE IN AN AREA
12:29:19:10 WHERE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GO TO
12:29:20:15 TJ IS OFFERED AND I'M SO
12:29:23:00 GRATEFUL THAT APS HAS CONTINUED
12:29:24:10 TO SHOW SUPPORT FOR S.T.E.M.

12:29:26:01 EDUCATION BY FUNDING TJ.
12:29:28:17 THOMAS JEFFERSON IS A WONDERFUL
12:29:29:15 OPPORTUNITY FOR ARLINGTON
12:29:30:06 STUDENTS THAT HAVE A PASSION FOR
12:29:31:17 S.T.E.M. AND FOR THE FUTURE OF
12:29:32:25 S.T.E.M. LEADERSHIP.
12:29:33:23 TJ OFFERS CLASSES AND LAB
12:29:35:12 MATERIALS NOT AVAILABLE ANYWHERE
12:29:36:17 ELSE, INCLUDING HIGHLY
12:29:38:02 SPECIALIZED COURSES LIKE
12:29:39:10 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, DNA
12:29:41:12 SCIENCE, QUANTUM PHYSICS AND
12:29:43:27 NANOBIO TECHNOLOGY.
12:29:45:06 NEXT YEAR AS A SENIOR, I WILL BE
12:29:47:05 CONDUCTING RESEARCH IN THE
12:29:48:13 OCEANOGRAPHY AND GEOPHYSICAL
12:29:50:05 SYSTEMS LABS WHICH IS ONE OF
12:29:51:11 TJ'S NINE SPECIALIZED SENIOR
12:29:53:07 RESEARCH LABS WITH A FOCUS ON
12:29:55:03 MODELING MOVEMENTS THROUGH OCEAN
12:29:58:07 CURRENTS.
12:29:59:22 TJ STUDENTS ARE ALSO ABLE TO
12:30:01:00 SHARE THEIR PASSION FOR S.T.E.M.
12:30:02:19 WITH YOUNGER STUDENTS WHO SHARE
12:30:04:04 THAT SAME PASSION.
12:30:06:19 THROUGH OUTREACH PROGRAMS RUN BY
12:30:10:28 TJ STUDENTS WHERE ELEMENTARY
12:30:13:03 STUDENTS CAN COME TO DO HANDS-ON
12:30:15:24 EXPERIMENTS WITH TJ STUDENTS AND
12:30:17:17 LEARN ABOUT THE RESEARCH
12:30:18:08 STUDENTS HAVE CONDUCTED
12:30:19:06 THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.
12:30:20:11 I HOPE THAT THE FUTURE CLASSES
12:30:21:20 OF ARLINGTON STUDENTS CAN
12:30:22:27 CONTINUE TO BE OFFERED THE SAME
12:30:25:03 OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THEIR
12:30:26:01 PASSION FOR S.T.E.M. AND
12:30:26:29 S.T.E.M. LEADERSHIP THROUGH TJ.
12:30:29:04 THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
12:30:29:25 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:30:31:20 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:30:32:25 >> ELIZABETH ADAMS.
12:30:41:27 >> HELLO.
12:30:42:18 MY NAME IS ELIZABETH ADAMS AND
12:30:43:24 I'M A SENIOR AT WASHINGTON
12:30:47:00 LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL.
12:30:48:04 I ALSO VOLUNTEER WITH THE LAB AT
12:30:50:03 SCIENCE AND SERVE AS A BOARD
12:30:51:21 MEMBER ON THE ARLINGTON OUTDOOR

12:30:53:00 EDUCATION ASSOCIATION BOARD AS A
12:30:54:28 JUNIOR BOARD MEMBER.
12:30:56:13 I'M HERE TO DO TO SPEAK ABOUT
12:30:57:28 THE LAB'S INFLUENCE ON MY LIFE
12:31:00:01 AND FOR THE BOARD TO RETHINK
12:31:02:09 BUDGET CUTS.
12:31:03:24 WHEN I FIRST VISITED THE LAB IN
12:31:05:13 THIRD GRADE, I WAS HOOKED.
12:31:06:29 MEETING SNAKES IN THE ANIMAL
12:31:08:10 LAB, HOISTING A CLASSMATE UP A
12:31:10:19 FLAG POLE TO LEARN ABOUT
12:31:12:04 PULLEYS, THESE ARE THINGS I
12:31:14:03 STILL REMEMBER.
12:31:15:21 I'LL NEVER FORGET THE NIGHT HIKE
12:31:18:14 OR THE SLEEPING IN TENTS.
12:31:21:14 WHEN I REALIZED YOU COULD DO IT
12:31:23:09 ALL OVER AGAIN AS A CAMPER, I
12:31:25:03 COULDN'T HAVE BEEN MORE EXCITED.
12:31:27:05 I'VE SEEN CAMPERS ARRIVE ON
12:31:34:18 MONDAY WITH THE FEAR OF WASPS
12:31:36:07 ONLY TO TAKE ON THE WOODS LIKE A
12:31:37:26 PRO BY FRIDAY.
12:31:38:25 I GET TO SEE KIDS' FACES
12:31:40:16 TRANSFORM AS THEY CATCH THEIR
12:31:41:24 FIRST FROG OR WATCH THE SNAPPING
12:31:45:14 TURTLES MUNCH ON A CRAWFISH.
12:31:47:16 THE VALUE OF THE OUTDOOR LAB IS
12:31:52:29 UNDENIABLE.
12:31:54:01 GENERATIONS OF STUDENTS HAVE
12:31:54:25 VISITED AND LOVED THE LAB
12:31:56:04 EMERGING WITH PRICELESS
12:31:57:12 MEMORIES.
12:31:58:14 AS ONE OF THOSE KIDS LOVE STRUCK
12:31:59:26 BY THE LAB, I COME TO YOU TODAY
12:32:01:29 TO ASK FOR ITS PROTECTION.
12:32:03:22 THE LAB IS AN IMPORTANT
12:32:04:26 INSTITUTION AND PROVIDES A
12:32:05:24 UNIQUE RESOURCE TO ARLINGTON
12:32:07:02 STUDENTS.
12:32:08:03 I URGE YOU TO KEEP THIS IN MIND
12:32:09:25 AND PASS A BUDGET THAT SUPPORTS
12:32:11:11 THE OUTDOOR LAB.
12:32:12:26 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:32:14:00 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:32:15:18 >> CASSIDY?
12:32:24:12 >> HELLO.
12:32:25:10 I'M A JUNIOR AT YORKTOWN HIGH
12:32:26:27 SCHOOL AND A GIRL SCOUT WITH
12:32:29:00 AMBASSADOR TROOP 4467.

12:32:31:05 I'M HERE TO URGE YOU TO CONTINUE
12:32:32:11 FUNDING THE OUTDOOR LAB
12:32:33:22 POSITIONS.
12:32:35:00 MY TROOP HAS BEEN AN INTEGRAL
12:32:37:07 PART OF THE OPEN HOUSES AT THE
12:32:39:20 OUTDOOR LAB SINCE SIXTH GRADE.
12:32:43:03 THE FIFTH GRADE OVERNIGHT IS
12:32:44:10 SOMETHING EVERY ELEMENTARY
12:32:45:15 SCHOOL STUDENT LOOKS FORWARD TO.
12:32:50:12 I KNOW I DID.
12:32:51:06 I HEARD FROM MY TWO OLDER
12:32:53:22 BROTHERS THAT THEY HAD SO MUCH
12:32:56:04 FUN AND I COULDN'T WAIT FOR MY
12:32:57:26 OWN TRIP.
12:32:58:24 THE BEST PART ABOUT THE OUTDOOR
12:33:00:06 LAB OVERNIGHT WAS LEARNING
12:33:01:17 OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM.
12:33:03:09 WHEN YOU'RE IN A CLASSROOM, YOU
12:33:04:15 ONLY GET TO SEE ANIMALS IN
12:33:05:26 HABITATS ON A SMARTBOARD, BUT
12:33:07:15 WHEN YOU'RE AT THE OUTDOOR LAB,
12:33:10:08 YOU GET TO HOLD, FEED, HEAR THE
12:33:12:04 ANIMALS ALL AROUND YOU.
12:33:14:16 THE OUTDOOR LAB IS ONE PROGRAM
12:33:16:07 THAT BENEFITS MOST ALL OF THE
12:33:18:00 STUDENTS IN APS.
12:33:20:12 IT IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR
12:33:21:09 THOSE KIDS WHOSE PARENTS DON'T
12:33:22:24 HAVE THE MONEY OR TIME TO GET
12:33:24:16 OUTSIDE AND GO FISHING OR
12:33:26:11 BOATING IN NATURE.
12:33:29:13 AS GIRL SCOUTS, WHEN WE
12:33:30:28 VOLUNTEER AT THE OPEN HOUSES, WE
12:33:33:11 INTERACT WITH APS CHILDREN.
12:33:34:20 THEY GET TO DO ACTIVITIES THEY
12:33:38:27 CAN'T DO IN ARLINGTON.
12:33:40:24 THESE KIDS LEARN SO MUCH,
12:33:41:23 BECAUSE WHAT THEY LEARN IS ALL
12:33:43:08 AROUND THEM IN THE OUTDOOR LAB.
12:33:46:21 IF NATURE IS CHICKEN SOUP FOR
12:33:47:23 THE SOUL, THEN THE OUTDOOR LAB
12:33:49:19 IS MEDICINE FOR ALL THE APS KIDS
12:33:51:24 WHO SUFFERED THROUGH THE
12:33:52:18 LOCKDOWN DURING THE PANDEMIC.
12:33:54:14 THERE IS NOTHING LIKE THE
12:33:55:09 OUTDOOR LAB ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE
12:33:56:20 STATE OF VIRGINIA.
12:33:57:29 THIS PROGRAM SHOULD BE
12:33:58:29 CHERISHED.

12:34:00:14 PLEASE KEEP THE OUTDOOR LAB
12:34:02:06 POSITIONS FUNDED, THANK YOU.
12:34:04:29 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:34:05:23 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:34:06:27 >> BEFORE I CALL THE NEXT
12:34:08:02 SPEAKER, I'LL ASK THE NEXT FIVE
12:34:09:28 SPEAKERS TO LINE UP.
12:34:11:10 MICHAEL, SCOTT, STEVEN, ANNA,
12:34:18:09 SANDRA.
12:34:20:24 NEXT SPEAKER, MARGARET FLANNERY
12:34:22:16 GOODMAN.
12:34:23:04 >> HI, I'M A JUNIOR AT YORKTOWN
12:34:29:27 HIGH SCHOOL.
12:34:37:11 WHEN I WENT, I'D BEEN LOOKING
12:34:43:13 FORWARD TO THE FIELD TRIP FOR
12:34:44:21 BASICALLY A WHOLE YEAR, SLEEPING
12:34:46:17 IN THE WOODS WITH MY BEST
12:34:47:28 FRIENDS, WHAT COULD BE BETTER?
12:34:49:24 AND TO NO SURPRISE, I HAD A
12:34:51:19 GREAT TIME.
12:34:52:17 I GOT TO BUILD STRONGER
12:34:53:19 RELATIONSHIPS WITH MY TEACHERS
12:34:54:17 AND CLASSMATES I'D NEVER THOUGHT
12:34:57:25 I'D BE FRIENDS WITH.
12:34:59:04 I GOT TO MAKE SMORES AND HOLD
12:35:04:16 CRITTERS.
12:35:05:11 WE FELT WE HAD DONE SOMETHING
12:35:07:12 AMAZING.
12:35:08:03 WE HAD LEARNED ABOUT THE
12:35:08:28 OUTDOORS, BUT WE HAD ALSO
12:35:10:23 LEARNED TO WORK WITH EACH OTHER.
12:35:12:09 WE WERE CONNECTED AND BONDED BY
12:35:13:15 OUR FIELD TRIP AND WHAT ELSE
12:35:14:20 COULD A SCHOOL SYSTEM WON'T IN
12:35:16:15 THEIR STUDENTS?
12:35:17:24 SINCE THE PANDEMIC, WE KNOW THAT
12:35:18:23 KIDS HAVE MORE MENTAL HEALTH
12:35:19:27 NEEDS.
12:35:21:24 THE OUTDOOR LAB CAN HELP KIDS
12:35:23:26 WITH THESE MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS
12:35:24:27 BY PROVIDING THEM WITH A SAFE
12:35:26:17 SPACE WHILE ALSO TEACHING THEM
12:35:28:09 TO SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER.
12:35:30:25 IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT WE'RE
12:35:31:23 TALKING ABOUT BUDGET CUTS.
12:35:33:11 I WISH YOU WOULD INVEST MORE
12:35:36:07 MONEY INTO THE OUTDOOR LAB AND
12:35:38:15 SAVE THESE STUDENTS' BRIGHT
12:35:40:00 FUTURE.

12:35:41:17 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:35:42:12 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:35:43:07 >> MICHAEL?
12:35:49:15 >> HELLO, SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS,
12:35:51:24 DR. DURAN, Dr. MAYO, AND THOSE
12:35:53:23 OF YOU WATCHING ON TELEVISION.
12:35:55:18 I AM A DAD AND A VOLUNTEER WITH
12:35:57:14 THE ARLINGTON OUTDOOR EDUCATION
12:35:59:05 ASSOCIATION AND REALLY WHEN I
12:36:01:20 EXPLAIN THAT TO FOLKS, IT'S THE
12:36:03:06 P.T.A. FOR THE OUTDOOR LAB.
12:36:06:18 WE ARE ADVOCATING LIKE WE'RE
12:36:08:06 DOING NOW FOR FUNDING, BUDGETS,
12:36:11:02 STAFFING.
12:36:11:16 WE SUPPORT THE STAFF WHEN WE
12:36:13:04 CAN.
12:36:13:25 I JUST BROUGHT SOME DUCK
12:36:15:27 DOUGHNUTS OUT THE OTHER DAY
12:36:17:13 WHICH WERE A VERY BIG HIT.
12:36:18:26 THE STRANGE THING IS WE OWN THE
12:36:20:11 PROPERTY OUT THERE WHICH IS
12:36:21:22 STRANGE TO BE THE LANDLORD FOR
12:36:23:07 YOUR SCHOOL, BUT THAT'S HOW IT'S
12:36:24:17 WORKED FOR 55 YEARS.
12:36:26:29 WE WANT TO BE PART OF THE APS
12:36:28:07 BUDGET PROCESS AND PARTNER WITH
12:36:30:06 DR. DURAN AND HIS FOLKS.
12:36:32:14 AND WE'VE LOOKED AT THE
12:36:33:12 STAFFING.
12:36:34:15 THERE HAVE BEEN KEY CHANGES OVER
12:36:35:11 THE LAST SIX, SEVEN YEARS, WHERE
12:36:38:22 EVERY YEAR OR SO, WE'RE
12:36:40:11 ADJUSTING WHO'S LEADING THE
12:36:42:00 OUTDOOR LAB.
12:36:43:12 IS IT A SUPERVISOR, A DIRECTOR,
12:36:46:26 AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR?
12:36:48:04 THROUGH ALL THAT CHANGE, THE
12:36:49:09 STAFF OUT THERE HAS HAD A HARD
12:36:51:01 TIME NOT ONLY WITH COVID BUT
12:36:52:10 JUST GETTING THROUGH ALL THESE
12:36:53:15 CHANGES.
12:36:54:00 AND SO THIS TIME, WE SPOKE WITH
12:36:55:19 THE ACADEMICS OFFICE JUST
12:36:58:08 YESTERDAY AND THEY SAID, OH,
12:36:59:14 WE'RE STILL SUPPORTIVE OF THE
12:37:00:19 OUTDOOR LAB, WHICH IS GOOD TO
12:37:02:05 HEAR, AND THE OVERNIGHT PROGRAM
12:37:03:23 THAT YOU'RE HEARING SO MUCH
12:37:04:25 ABOUT.

12:37:05:13 AND THE OVERNIGHTS FROM FIFTH
12:37:06:27 GRADE KIND OF LEAD INTO THE
12:37:08:00 SUMMER CAMP WHERE KIDS WANT TO
12:37:09:22 COME BACK AND DO IT FOR FOUR
12:37:11:21 NIGHTS IN A ROW.
12:37:12:27 BUT WE REALLY SEE IN KIND OF
12:37:15:03 WORKING AS PARTNERS AND AS THE
12:37:16:19 PTA FOR THE OUTDOOR LAB, EVERY
12:37:19:18 ADJUSTMENT TO STAFFING OUT THERE
12:37:21:03 HAS BIGGER AND BROADER EFFECTS.
12:37:23:29 JUST REMOVING THIS ONE KEY
12:37:27:24 POSITION OUT THERE, THE OUTDOOR
12:37:29:13 LAB COORDINATOR, AN
12:37:30:21 ADMINISTRATIVE OR P-LEVEL
12:37:31:25 POSITION, I THINK, THAT IS A KEY
12:37:34:18 PERSON THAT'S ON THE GROUND.
12:37:37:03 WHEN WE HAVE CLASSES THAT ARE
12:37:38:09 GOING ON OUT THERE, WE HAVE FIVE
12:37:41:04 GREAT ASSISTANTS THAT ARE
12:37:42:00 WORKING WITH US AND THEY HAVE
12:37:43:05 GREAT TIMES.
12:37:44:19 BUT WE HAVE A LOT OF AREA THAT
12:37:46:11 WE HAVE TO COVER.
12:37:47:15 SO PLEASE KEEP THAT IN MIND AS
12:37:49:11 WE TRY TO SAVE ALL THE POSITIONS
12:37:50:20 IN THE OUTDOOR LAB.
12:37:52:02 THANK YOU.
12:37:52:13 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:37:53:27 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:37:55:02 >> SCOTT?
12:38:01:14 >> GOOD EVENING.
12:38:02:11 I'M THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE
12:38:04:06 BOARD OF THE ARLINGTON OUTDOOR
12:38:05:27 EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, THE
12:38:07:05 PARENT OF TWO STUDENTS FROM APS
12:38:08:27 WHO BENEFITED GREATLY FROM THEIR
12:38:10:25 TIME AT THE OUTDOOR LAB.
12:38:12:18 AND AS YOU HEARD, I WANT TO
12:38:19:24 STRESS, THIS IS NOT A CENTRAL
12:38:21:29 OFFICE POSITION.
12:38:22:24 THIS IS A POSITION THAT IS BASED
12:38:23:29 AT THE LAB THERE EVERY DAY.
12:38:26:24 AND THIS POSITION PROVIDES THE
12:38:28:18 MOST DIRECT CONNECTION BETWEEN
12:38:30:26 CLASSROOM TEACHERS AND APPLIED
12:38:32:14 S.T.E.M. EDUCATION AT THE LAB.
12:38:34:06 THE COORDINATOR HELPS NOT ONLY
12:38:35:24 THE TEACHERS IN THIRD, FIFTH,
12:38:37:09 AND SEVENTH GRADE PREPARE FOR

12:38:39:01 FIELD TRIPS, BUT THE COORDINATOR
12:38:40:13 HELPS TEACHERS AMPLIFY LESSONS,
12:38:43:15 APPLIED SCIENCE AND CRITICAL
12:38:44:26 LEARNING OBJECTIVES BACK IN THE
12:38:46:14 CLASSROOM HERE IN ARLINGTON.
12:38:47:22 AND AS YOU HEARD MIKE SAY,
12:38:50:08 ELIMINATING THIS POSITION
12:38:51:06 JEOPARDIZES FIFTH GRADE
12:38:52:21 OVERNIGHT STARTING NEXT YEAR.
12:38:55:23 APS ADOPTED NEW PROCEDURES
12:38:57:08 EFFECTIVE THIS YEAR THAT REQUIRE
12:38:58:16 ONE OF TWO SENIOR STAFF
12:39:00:04 INCLUDING THE POSITION PROPOSED
12:39:01:09 FOR ELIMINATION TO BE PRESENT
12:39:03:00 EVERY NIGHT AT OVERNIGHTS.
12:39:05:03 THERE'S ABOUT 40 EVERY YEAR IN
12:39:06:14 THE FALL, OVER THE FALL AND THE
12:39:09:07 SPRING, TWO PER WEEK, AND THAT
12:39:11:06 MEANS SOMEBODY'S GOT TO BE THERE
12:39:12:15 FOR CONSECUTIVE NIGHTS FOR
12:39:14:00 MULTIPLE WEEKS FROM MID
12:39:15:22 SEPTEMBER TO THANKSGIVING AND
12:39:16:29 REPEAT IT IN THE SPRING.
12:39:18:08 THAT'S NOT A REASONABLE
12:39:19:03 EXPECTATION FOR ANYONE.
12:39:22:11 CONSIDER WHAT HAPPENED THIS
12:39:22:21 YEAR.
12:39:23:18 OF THE 20 SCHEDULED OVERNIGHTS,
12:39:28:18 14 WERE CANCELED DUE TO STAFFING
12:39:31:03 ISSUES OR LACK OF ENOUGH
12:39:34:05 CHAPERONES.
12:39:35:10 I THINK ALL OF YOU HERE
12:39:38:26 UNDERSTAND THE UNIQUE LEARNING
12:39:39:27 OPPORTUNITIES THAT YOU'VE HEARD
12:39:41:05 FROM THE STUDENTS AND THE LAB
12:39:42:16 COORDINATOR POSITION IS CRITICAL
12:39:44:18 TO DELIVERING THE EDUCATIONAL
12:39:47:13 PROGRAMMING THAT TAKES PLACE
12:39:48:12 THERE AND MAXIMIZING THE
12:39:49:20 BENEFITS FOR OUR STUDENTS, SO WE
12:39:51:16 REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR TIME AND
12:39:53:04 WILLINGNESS TO LISTEN TO US AND
12:39:54:13 MOST IMPORTANTLY THE STUDENTS
12:39:55:12 AND WE URGE YOU AGAIN TO REJECT
12:39:58:02 THE PROPOSAL TO LIMIT FUNDING
12:40:01:07 FOR THE LAB COORDINATOR
12:40:11:00 POSITION.
12:40:12:17 >> WE'VE SUPPORTED AND DONATED
12:40:16:07 TO THE LAB FOR DECADES BY

12:40:17:22 SUPPLYING TENTS, SLEEPING PADS,
12:40:19:08 BLANKETS, WATER BOTTLES AND
12:40:21:04 ADDITIONAL GEAR.
12:40:22:02 OVER THE YEARS, WE'VE HELPED
12:40:23:13 SECURE 10,000 THERE ARE IN
12:40:24:21 GRANTS TO HELP PROVIDE
12:40:26:06 NECESSITIES FOR THE STAFF AND
12:40:27:07 THE FACILITIES.
12:40:29:15 WITH TWO APS STUDENTS OF MY OWN,
12:40:31:11 I WAS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO
12:40:32:25 CHAPERONE SIX CONSECUTIVE YEARS
12:40:34:14 OF OVERNIGHTS OUT THERE.
12:40:38:09 OVERNIGHTS ARE AN EXPERIENTIAL
12:40:40:28 JOURNEY, EXCITED ANTICIPATION,
12:40:43:00 AND A FOUNDATION IN CLASSROOM
12:40:44:23 EDUCATION ARE, BUT WHAT FOLLOWS
12:40:45:25 ARE LESSONS OF INDEPENDENCE,
12:40:47:28 TEAMWORK, SELF-RELIANCE, AND
12:40:49:14 PRACTICAL REAL-WORLD
12:40:50:28 APPLICATIONS.
12:40:51:20 FOR MANY, THIS IS THE FIRST AND
12:40:52:25 ONLY OPPORTUNITY TO HIKE A
12:40:54:10 HILLTOP, SPLASH IN THE STREAM,
12:40:56:02 MEANDER UNDER THE MOONLIGHT,
12:40:57:28 RELISH ROASTED HOT DOGS AND
12:40:59:20 SAVOR S'MORES.
12:41:03:20 IT ALLOWS STUDENTS TO EXPLORE
12:41:05:08 UNIQUE ACTIVITIES LIKE KAYAKING
12:41:07:21 AND ORNITHOLOGY.
12:41:10:09 BIG STEPS IN A STUDENT'S LIFE
12:41:11:11 JOURNEY THROUGH ENCOUNTERS WITH
12:41:12:16 OPPOSITION AND OPPORTUNITY,
12:41:14:05 FAILURE AND SUCCESS, AND THESE
12:41:15:24 ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT
12:41:16:21 REAL-WORLD TEACHERS OF ALL.
12:41:19:00 ONE YEAR THE STUDENT WHO AFTER
12:41:20:18 MANY UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS TO
12:41:22:23 CATCH A FISH FINALLY CAUGHT THE
12:41:24:18 SMALLEST ONE IN THE POND BUT HAD
12:41:26:07 THE BIGGEST SMILE.
12:41:27:16 AS A CHAPERONE, STUDENTS TAKE
12:41:34:21 DOWN TENTS, CLEAN THEIR
12:41:36:29 CLOTHING, APPLYING SCIENCE AND
12:41:40:16 MATH SKILLS IN AMAZING OUTDOOR
12:41:42:18 SETTINGS AND FORM LONG LASTING
12:41:44:17 FRIENDSHIPS.
12:41:45:12 A DIFFERENT LEARNING ENVIRONMENT
12:41:47:03 PROVIDED A DIFFERENT WAY OF
12:41:48:11 UNDERSTANDING CONCEPTS FOR MANY.

12:41:49:24 MANY OF OUR LOCALLY EMPLOYED
12:41:51:03 STAFF FROM OVER THE YEARS
12:41:52:24 FINALLY REMEMBERED THEIR TIME AT
12:41:54:26 THE OUTDOOR LAB AND POINT TO IT
12:41:57:29 AS AN EARLY STEPPING STONE FOR
12:42:00:04 THEIR PROMINENT CAREERS WITH THE
12:42:02:25 EPA, THE NATIONAL ZOO, THE U.S.
12:42:06:05 GEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND THE
12:42:08:01 APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONSERVANCY.
12:42:12:17 THANKS MUCH.
12:42:13:05 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:42:14:13 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:42:15:08 >> ANNA?
12:42:20:19 >> HI, GOOD EVENING, EVERYONE.
12:42:22:05 MY NAME IS ANNA.
12:42:23:13 I'M THE PARENT OF A
12:42:24:05 KINDERGARTENER IN THE DUAL
12:42:25:16 LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM AT
12:42:27:07 ESCUELA KEY AND TONIGHT I'M HERE
12:42:28:26 TO ASK FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION OF
12:42:31:01 TWO REQUESTS.
12:42:32:26 FIRST THAT THE BOARD SUPPORT THE
12:42:33:28 FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 80-20
12:42:37:22 MODEL AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED.
12:42:40:01 THAT INCLUDES MAINTAINING THE
12:42:41:02 CURRENT FUNDING FOR KINDERGARTEN
12:42:42:21 AND FIRST GRADE AND THEN
12:42:44:02 SUPPORTING THE RESOURCES FOR THE
12:42:45:01 SECOND GRADE IMPLEMENTATION.
12:42:47:12 AND I'M ALSO HERE TO REQUEST
12:42:48:20 THAT DLI PROGRAM CHANGES INCLUDE
12:42:51:09 COMMUNITY INPUT AND GO THROUGH A
12:42:52:21 BOARD VOTE AS REQUIRED BY APS
12:42:54:10 POLICY.
12:42:56:05 AS YOU KNOW, THE PROGRAM CHANGED
12:42:58:10 TO THE 80-20 MODEL LAST YEAR.
12:43:02:24 WE ARRIVED AT THAT PROGRAM AS A
12:43:04:09 COMMUNITY BECAUSE IT'S THE MOST
12:43:05:11 EVIDENCE-BASED MODEL FOR
12:43:07:18 LANGUAGE ACQUISITION AND MOST OF
12:43:08:20 THE OUTREACH TO NEW FAMILIES WAS
12:43:10:05 DONE AROUND THE 80-20 MODEL.
12:43:13:08 WE WERE EXCITED THAT OUR KIDS'
12:43:14:27 EDUCATION WAS GOING TO BE
12:43:15:28 STRUCTURED IN THIS WAY.
12:43:16:24 AS A PARENT, I CAN TELL YOU THAT
12:43:18:16 WE CAN SEE WHAT A DIFFERENCE IT
12:43:20:18 MAKES FOR OUR STUDENTS TO BE
12:43:22:20 EXPOSED TO THE LANGUAGE FOR THE

12:43:24:29 MAJORITY OF THEIR DAY.
12:43:27:05 AND WE ARE APPRECIATIVE TO THE
12:43:28:09 STAFF AND THE TEACHERS, THE
12:43:30:01 PRINCIPALS, THE APS STAFF THAT
12:43:32:06 HAVE WORKED TOGETHER TO MAKE
12:43:33:08 THIS CHANGE POSSIBLE.
12:43:36:00 I DON'T KNOW IF YOU REMEMBER
12:43:37:03 BEING A KINDERGARTEN EAGER
12:43:39:15 PARENT GOING TO EVERY PTA
12:43:41:00 MEETING, EVERY SESSION, WEBINAR,
12:43:44:20 THAT'S ME THIS YEAR, AND THE
12:43:46:09 CONSTANT MESSAGE THAT I HAVE
12:43:47:07 HEARD THROUGH ALL OF THOSE
12:43:48:29 SESSIONS HAS BEEN THIS WAS THE
12:43:50:26 RIGHT THING TO DO FOR OUR KIDS.
12:43:52:09 WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT IT.
12:43:53:21 WE'RE SO GLAD WE MADE THAT
12:43:54:20 CHANGE.
12:43:55:17 AND SO THERE REALLY HASN'T BEEN
12:43:58:02 ANY CONCERNS THAT HAVE BEEN
12:43:59:04 SHARED WITH PARENTS.
12:44:01:02 CERTAINLY NONE THAT WOULD
12:44:02:16 WARRANT PAUSING THE
12:44:03:24 IMPLEMENTATION OF SIX MONTHS
12:44:04:29 AHEAD OF THE START OF THE NEW
12:44:06:18 SCHOOL YEAR.
12:44:07:23 WE WANT TO BE, AS PARENTS,
12:44:09:21 PARTNERS WITH YOU IN THE
12:44:10:23 EDUCATION OF OUR CHILDREN.
12:44:11:28 AND WE WOULD HOPE THAT WE COULD
12:44:13:13 PROVIDE INPUT, SO WE
12:44:15:11 RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THE 80-20
12:44:18:00 IMPLEMENTATION CONTINUES AS
12:44:18:24 APPROVED BY THE BOARD, THANK
12:44:20:06 YOU.
12:44:21:14 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:44:22:18 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:44:23:14 >> BEFORE I CALL THE NEXT
12:44:24:09 SPEAKER, IF THE NEXT FIVE
12:44:26:04 SPEAKERS WOULD LINE UP?
12:44:28:09 MEREDITH, GWENDOLYN, STACEY,
12:44:31:15 JOSHUA, MARY.
12:44:34:03 NEXT SPEAKER, SANDRA LEE COHEN.
12:44:42:14 >> HI, GOOD EVENING.
12:44:45:02 I AM A PARENT OF A FIRST GRADER
12:44:47:01 ALSO AT ESCUELA KEY AND I'M ALSO
12:44:48:23 SEEKING ON THE PROPOSED PAUSE IN
12:44:52:15 BUDGET CUTS TO THE 80/20 MODEL.
12:44:56:08 AS PARENTS, WE ARE REALLY

12:44:57:10 CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROPOSED
12:44:58:15 BUDGET AND THE PAUSE.
12:44:59:14 THE BUDGET ELIMINATES ALL
12:45:00:24 SUPPORT FOR THE 80-20
12:45:03:02 IMPLEMENTATION IN SECOND GRADE
12:45:04:07 WHICH INCLUDES TWO STAFF
12:45:05:11 POSITIONS, CURRICULUM MATERIALS,
12:45:07:00 AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.
12:45:08:21 ALL OF THIS WAS COMMITTED TO BY
12:45:10:16 THE BOARD, BY THE DISTRICT, AND
12:45:12:23 BY US AS A SCHOOL COMMUNITY WHEN
12:45:14:04 WE AGREED TO SHIFT TO THE 80-20
12:45:16:14 MODEL.
12:45:16:28 STEPPING BACK FROM THIS
12:45:18:16 COMMITMENT WILL PREVENT OUR
12:45:19:28 RISING FIRST GRADERS FROM FULLY
12:45:21:10 BENEFITING FROM THE MODEL.
12:45:23:03 WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THIS
12:45:24:27 PAUSE WILL ALLOW FOR ADDITIONAL
12:45:26:12 SUPPORT IN KINDERGARTEN AND
12:45:27:17 FIRST GRADE, BUT THE PROPOSED
12:45:29:12 BUDGET LACKS FUNDS FOR A SCHOOL
12:45:31:24 DLI COORDINATOR AND PD FOR
12:45:37:02 TEACHERS IN THOSE GRADES.
12:45:38:13 THIS LACK OF SUPPORT FOR OUR
12:45:39:25 TEACHERS AND FOR OUR STUDENTS
12:45:41:09 OBVIOUSLY CONCERNS US AS
12:45:42:07 PARENTS.
12:45:43:08 BUT AS A SCHOOL COMMUNITY, WE
12:45:45:10 SHOULD ALL BE CONCERNED ABOUT
12:45:46:24 THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS THIS CAN
12:45:48:23 HAVE ON OUR OVERALL K-2
12:45:50:29 ACHIEVEMENT, PARTICULARLY THE
12:45:52:21 ACHIEVEMENT GAP FOR ENGLISH
12:45:54:02 LANGUAGE LEARNERS.
12:45:55:18 CLAREMONT AND KEY'S ENGLISH
12:45:57:21 LANGUAGE LEARNERS REPRESENT 33%
12:45:59:14 AND 35% OF OUR STUDENTS
12:46:02:09 RESPECTIVELY.
12:46:03:10 THIS HIGH PROPORTION OF ELS IS
12:46:05:10 ONE OF THE REASONS WE ADOPTED
12:46:07:11 THE 80-20 MODEL BECAUSE DUAL
12:46:10:07 IMMERSION IN EARLY GRADES IS THE
12:46:12:00 BEST MODEL TO SUPPORT ENGLISH
12:46:14:18 LITERACY DEVELOPMENT AND IT
12:46:16:06 PREVENTS ELS FALLING BEHIND IN
12:46:21:05 LATER GRADES.
12:46:21:25 I JOIN THE OTHER PARENTS AND
12:46:27:05 THERE'S MANY OF US HERE TODAY

12:46:28:20 ASKING THE BOARD TO NOT APPROVE
12:46:30:15 THE CURRENT BUDGET AS IS AND
12:46:33:04 SUPERINTENDENT DR. DURAN, WE
12:46:35:05 WELCOME TO HAVE A MEETING WITH
12:46:36:11 YOU, PARENTS, PRINCIPALS, AND
12:46:37:23 EDUCATORS FROM BOTH OF OUR
12:46:38:28 SCHOOLS SO THAT WE CAN
12:46:39:27 UNDERSTAND WHAT'S BEING PROPOSED
12:46:41:11 AND COME TO A SOLUTION THAT WE
12:46:43:03 CAN ALL AGREE ON SUPPORTS ALL
12:46:45:02 OUR KIDS.
12:46:45:26 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:46:46:27 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:46:48:12 >> MEREDITH JUDY?
12:46:52:27 >> GOOD EVENING.
12:46:55:18 I AM A FIRST GRADE PARENT AT
12:46:57:10 CLAREMONT IMMERSION SCHOOLS.
12:46:59:25 I'M SPEAKING TODAY REGARDING A
12:47:01:03 MAJOR CURRICULUM CHANGE THAT
12:47:02:12 WILL AFFECT APPROXIMATELY 200
12:47:04:16 SPANISH IMMERSION STUDENTS.
12:47:06:24 IN MARCH 2022, THE SCHOOL BOARD
12:47:08:16 APPROVED THE SUPERINTENDENT'S
12:47:09:24 RECOMMENDATION TO MOVE FROM A
12:47:11:09 50-50 PARTIAL DUAL LANGUAGE
12:47:13:13 IMMERSION TO AN 80-20 FULL
12:47:16:03 IMMERSION PROGRAM STARTING IN
12:47:17:22 FALL 2023.
12:47:19:23 THIS DECISION WAS MADE IN
12:47:20:14 ACCORDANCE WITH APS POLICY WHICH
12:47:22:20 REQUIRES COMMUNITY COMMENT AND
12:47:24:18 SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL FOR NEW
12:47:26:02 PROGRAMS, SUBSTANTIAL REVISION
12:47:29:03 OF EXISTING INSTRUCTIONAL
12:47:31:04 PROGRAMS OR DISCONTINUATION OF
12:47:32:26 PROGRAMS.
12:47:33:07 THE SUPERINTENDENT HAS NOW
12:47:33:28 PROPOSED A SUBSTANTIAL REVISION
12:47:36:06 TO AN EXISTING INSTRUCTIONAL
12:47:38:02 PROGRAM.
12:47:39:13 THAT IS CANCELLATION OF THE
12:47:41:00 80-20 PROGRAM FOR ALL 200 RISING
12:47:43:17 SECOND GRADERS FOR THE REST OF
12:47:44:26 THEIR ELEMENTARY CAREER.
12:47:47:11 THE PARENTS WERE TOLD THAT THIS
12:47:49:06 DISCONTINUATION IS A FINAL
12:47:51:11 DECISION.
12:47:52:21 ONE MADE WITH NO COMMUNITY
12:47:54:00 INVOLVEMENT, NO PRESENTATION TO

12:47:56:08 THE COMMUNITY FOR COMMENTS, AND
12:47:57:29 NO SCHOOL BOARD VOTE, ALL OF
12:48:00:21 WHICH IS REQUIRED BY APS POLICY.
12:48:03:21 THE PROCESS HAS NOT BEEN
12:48:05:16 TRANSPARENT.
12:48:05:27 A PRACTICE WHICH IS CENTRAL TO
12:48:06:29 APS PRACTICES.
12:48:08:14 IN PARTICULAR, THE VOICES OF THE
12:48:09:27 ENGLISH LEARNER COMMUNITY HAVE
12:48:11:05 NOT BEEN HEARD.
12:48:13:03 I'M NOT POINTING FINGERS.
12:48:14:19 THE APS BOARD AND ADMINISTRATORS
12:48:16:20 WORK HARD FOR ALL APS CHILDREN,
12:48:18:11 BUT WE CANNOT ALLOW A DECISION
12:48:20:14 OF THIS SIGNIFICANCE TO BE MADE
12:48:22:06 AS A BULLET POINT ON PAGE 118 OF
12:48:24:18 A BUDGET DOCUMENT.
12:48:26:10 THE BOARD MUST NOT SET THIS TYPE
12:48:27:25 OF PRECEDENT.
12:48:29:03 I ASK THAT YOU NOT APPROVE THE
12:48:31:01 BUDGET AS IS AND INSTEAD
12:48:33:00 INSTRUCT THE SUPERINTENDENT,
12:48:34:14 PRINCIPALS, AND EDUCATORS, TO
12:48:36:06 WORK WITH THE PARENTS TO COME UP
12:48:37:12 WITH PLAN TO IMPLEMENT 80-20
12:48:39:08 MODEL FOR RISING SECOND GRADERS
12:48:40:20 FOR FALL 2024 AS ORIGINALLY
12:48:44:17 PLANNED.
12:48:45:01 NO ONE IS EXPECTING THE FIRST
12:48:46:03 YEAR OF SECOND GRADE
12:48:47:17 IMPLEMENTATION TO BE PERFECT.
12:48:49:08 LET'S SUPPORT THE TEACHERS,
12:48:50:12 INCLUDING TIME FOR PROFESSIONAL
12:48:51:24 EDUCATION AND CURRICULUM
12:48:53:11 DEVELOPMENT.
12:48:54:02 LET'S PARTNER TOGETHER BUT DO
12:48:56:20 NOT BREAK YOUR POLICY
12:48:58:04 COMMITMENTS.
12:48:58:23 >> NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:49:00:05 >> GWENDOLYN?
12:49:06:02 >> GOOD EVENING.
12:49:08:17 I AM THE PARENT OF A FIRST
12:49:09:19 GRADER WHO SPEAKS AMAZINGLY WELL
12:49:18:02 IN SPANISH.
12:49:20:20 WE'VE BEEN GIVEN REPEATED
12:49:22:08 ASSURANCES THAT THE MODEL
12:49:23:16 PROGRAM WAS GOING WELL.
12:49:25:12 APS OFFICIALS REASSURED PARENTS
12:49:26:16 THROUGH BILITERACY SESSIONS AND

12:49:29:01 PRINCIPAL UPDATES THAT
12:49:30:26 IMPLEMENTATION WAS ON TRACK.
12:49:33:00 WE ARE SHOCKED TO LEARN OF THIS
12:49:35:06 PROPOSAL ONLY WHEN PARENTS
12:49:37:03 BECAME AWARE OF THE BUDGET
12:49:39:01 PROPOSAL AND REACHED OUT TO THE
12:49:40:19 SCHOOL BOARD WAS THE DLI
12:49:42:04 COMMUNITY INFORMED OF THESE
12:49:43:05 CHANGES.
12:49:43:26 THE DECISION TO CHANGE THE MODEL
12:49:45:01 AND PROGRAM WAS DONE AS A
12:49:46:16 LAST-MINUTE CHANGE WITHOUT INPUT
12:49:47:24 FROM TEACHERS, PARENTS, OR THE
12:49:49:24 WIDER COMMUNITY.
12:49:50:22 UNTIL TWO WEEKS AGO, TEACHERS AT
12:49:52:08 BOTH SCHOOLS WERE UNDER THE
12:49:53:19 IMPRESSION THE MODEL WOULD BE
12:49:54:27 IMPLEMENTED AS APPROVED BY THE
12:49:56:06 BOARD AND HAD BEEN WORKING ON
12:49:57:14 PREPARATIONS FOR THE FALL UNTIL
12:49:58:23 THE BUDGET PROPOSAL CAME OUT.
12:50:01:29 BY PORTRAYING THE DECISION TO
12:50:04:04 PAUSE AS FINAL, THE DLI TEACHER
12:50:06:27 AND PARENT COMMUNITIES HAVE BEEN
12:50:08:22 EXCLUDED FROM ANY TYPE OF INPUT
12:50:10:12 IN THIS DECISION MAKING.
12:50:12:14 COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE
12:50:12:28 EDUCATORS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND
12:50:14:03 PARENTS WAS FOUNDATIONAL TO
12:50:16:02 PROGRAM CREATION.
12:50:17:06 WE AS PARENTS WANT TO PARTNER
12:50:18:15 WITH APS TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM.
12:50:21:01 AND WE WANT TO SUPPORT OUR
12:50:22:12 TEACHERS WHO HAVE WORKED SO
12:50:24:16 DILIGENTLY TO GET THIS PROGRAM
12:50:26:02 OFF THE GROUND.
12:50:27:23 WE WOULD LIKE A MEETING WITH THE
12:50:28:29 SUPERINTENDENT, PRINCIPALS FROM
12:50:30:20 BOTH SCHOOLS, EDUCATORS
12:50:32:25 RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION,
12:50:33:20 AND PARENTS, TO UNDERSTAND WHAT
12:50:35:09 IS BEING PROPOSED.
12:50:37:14 WHAT IS NEEDED AND TO FUND THE
12:50:40:06 GAP FOR PROFESSIONAL AND
12:50:41:14 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT.
12:50:42:22 TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE.
12:50:43:28 THE LONGER WE WAIT TO HAVE THIS
12:50:45:04 DISCUSSION, THE MORE THE
12:50:45:26 PREPARATIONS, THE PROGRAMS THAT

12:50:48:15 WERE ALREADY APPROVED BY THE
12:50:49:23 SCHOOL BOARD ARE AT RISK TO
12:50:52:08 STALLED PREPARATIONS.
12:50:53:23 THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.
12:50:55:08 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:50:55:26 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:50:56:24 >> STACY SNIDER?
12:51:04:26 >> HELLO.
12:51:06:24 I'M HERE THIS EVENING TO URGE
12:51:07:25 YOU TO CONSIDER HOW CIP
12:51:10:17 SITUATIONS AND DEBT SERVICE
12:51:12:02 IMPACT THE OPERATING BUDGET.
12:51:14:08 AT YOUR DECEMBER 14TH MEETING, I
12:51:15:21 GAVE PUBLIC COMMENT DISAGREEING
12:51:17:06 WITH AN AMENDMENT TO THE CIP
12:51:19:00 DIRECTION THAT YOU WENT ON TO
12:51:19:26 PASS IN A 3-2 VOTE LIMITING APS
12:51:22:05 STAFF TO ONLY EXPLORING OPTIONS
12:51:24:04 TO COMPLETE THE CAREER CENTER
12:51:25:19 SITE THAT WOULD COST MORE THAN
12:51:28:05 THE ALREADY \$200 MILLION TOTAL
12:51:30:23 PROJECT COST APPROVED IN THE
12:51:32:01 LAST CIP.
12:51:33:15 AS I SAID IN THAT COMMENT,
12:51:35:08 DURING THE UPCOMING BUDGET
12:51:36:22 PROCESS, IT'S EXPECTED THAT YOU
12:51:38:04 AND THE COUNTY BOARD WILL NEED
12:51:39:13 TO ASK CITIZENS, APS PARENTS,
12:51:41:18 TEACHERS, STAFF, AND STUDENTS TO
12:51:43:04 ACCEPT OPERATING BUDGET CUTS AND
12:51:44:26 POTENTIALLY TAX INCREASES.
12:51:46:28 AND HERE WE ARE.
12:51:48:20 HERE WE ARE WITH A BUDGET
12:51:50:01 SHORTFALL THIS YEAR AND EVEN
12:51:51:23 BIGGER SHORTFALLS FORECASTED IN
12:51:52:25 THE COMING YEARS.
12:51:54:03 HERE WE ARE ASKING THE COUNTY
12:51:55:18 BOARD TO APPROVE A TAX INCREASE
12:51:56:29 OF UP TO TWO-AND-A-HALF CENTS.
12:51:59:02 HERE WE ARE WITH A NEW STUDENT
12:52:01:20 ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS THAT
12:52:02:25 PREDICT A SURPLUS OF CAPACITY
12:52:05:04 SEATS AT EVERY LEVEL OVER THE
12:52:06:13 NEXT TEN YEARS.
12:52:07:15 HERE WE ARE WITH A FORECASTED
12:52:08:17 DEBT SERVICE FROM THE LAST CIP
12:52:10:15 CARRYING AT OR CLOSE TO
12:52:12:13 \$70 MILLION EVERY YEAR.
12:52:15:22 THESE CURRENT AND FORECAST

12:52:17:03 FISCAL CONSTRAINTS ARE REQUIRING
12:52:18:09 YOU TO MAKE HARD DECISIONS SUCH
12:52:20:08 AS CUTTING TEACHER AND STAFF
12:52:21:27 POSITIONS, NOT INCREASING
12:52:23:25 TEACHER COMPENSATION, AND
12:52:24:20 DELAYING THE REDUCTION OF CLASS
12:52:25:29 SIZES.
12:52:27:17 THESE SAME FISCAL CONSTRAINTS
12:52:29:23 ALSO REQUIRE YOU TO JUSTIFY HOW
12:52:31:11 OPTIONS THAT SPEND MORE CAPITAL
12:52:32:26 DOLLARS TO BUILD NEW SEATS THAT
12:52:34:15 WE DON'T NEED WILL ADD TO THE
12:52:36:20 ALREADY HIGH DEBT SERVICE AND
12:52:38:05 CREATE NEW FTE POSITIONS THAT
12:52:40:00 YOU WILL NEED TO FUND.
12:52:41:16 YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO STAND
12:52:42:17 BEHIND EVERY SOLUTION KNOWING
12:52:43:29 THAT YOU EXPLORED EVERY POSSIBLE
12:52:46:24 OPTION AND THAT THE DEBT SERVICE
12:52:48:09 BEING ADDED TO THE OPERATING
12:52:49:11 BUDGET IS WHOLLY JUSTIFIED.
12:52:51:04 I STRONGLY URGE YOU TO RESCIND
12:52:53:10 THE LIMITING AMENDMENT TO THE
12:52:54:24 CIP DIRECTION AND ALLOW STAFF
12:52:56:03 THE FREEDOM TO EXPLORE
12:52:57:11 COST-SAVING OPTIONS ON THE
12:52:58:21 CAREER CENTER PROJECT AND
12:53:00:12 COMMUNICATE THEM TO THE PUBLIC.
12:53:02:08 THANK YOU.
12:53:02:19 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:53:04:17 NEXT SPEAKER, JOSHUA.
12:53:11:02 >> HELLO.
12:53:12:03 MY NAME IS JOSHUA, I'VE LIVED IN
12:53:14:29 ARLINGTON SINCE 2003 AND MY TWO
12:53:18:28 CHILDREN HAVE ATTENDED APS
12:53:21:13 SCHOOLS SINCE KINDERGARTEN.
12:53:22:25 THEY NOW ATTEND THOMAS JEFFERSON
12:53:24:16 AND I'M SO GRATEFUL TO THIS
12:53:25:29 COUNTY FOR PROVIDING THAT
12:53:27:22 OPPORTUNITY.
12:53:28:09 I'VE HEARD THAT SOME PEOPLE HAVE
12:53:29:18 PROPOSED CUTTING THAT FUNDING
12:53:31:09 FROM THE BUDGET.
12:53:33:11 I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THE
12:53:34:12 CURRENT BUDGET DOES INCLUDE
12:53:35:23 FUNDING FOR THAT AND I'M HERE
12:53:37:06 TODAY TO URGE YOU TO CONTINUE TO
12:53:38:14 DO THAT.
12:53:40:02 AND YOU'VE ALREADY HEARD FROM

12:53:40:26 MANY OF THE STUDENTS, MY
12:53:43:01 DAUGHTER WHO WAS HERE BUT HAD TO
12:53:44:26 GO BACK BECAUSE OF CALCULUS, A
12:53:46:25 VERY HARD CLASS, ABOUT ALL THE
12:53:50:28 AMAZING OPPORTUNITIES, THE
12:53:51:22 UNMATCHED S.T.E.M. RESOURCES,
12:53:53:21 THE ACADEMIC RIGOR, BUT I'D LIKE
12:53:55:17 TO EMPHASIZE ONE DIFFERENT POINT
12:53:57:12 THAT I THINK IS EQUALLY
12:53:59:14 IMPORTANT FOR ALL OF US AND I
12:54:01:29 KNOW FOR ME AND THAT'S TJ'S
12:54:04:12 COMMITMENT TO EQUITY AND
12:54:05:03 DIVERSITY.
12:54:06:18 AS YOU MAY KNOW, A FEW YEARS
12:54:08:06 AGO, TJ REVISED ITS ADMISSIONS
12:54:11:00 POLICY TO ELIMINATE BARRIERS
12:54:14:01 THAT WERE A DISADVANTAGE TO
12:54:16:25 LOW-INCOME AND UNDERREPRESENTED
12:54:18:10 POPULATIONS.
12:54:21:01 THINGS LIKE STEEP ADMISSION FEES
12:54:24:23 TO EVEN APPLY, STANDARDIZED
12:54:26:25 TESTS THAT PRIVILEGED PEOPLE
12:54:33:12 THAT COULD AFFORD EXPENSIVE
12:54:35:18 TUTORS.
12:54:37:06 TJ'S DIVERSITY BLOSSOMED IN
12:54:39:05 TERMS OF RACE, ETHNICITY,
12:54:40:17 RELIGION, AND ECONOMIC STATUS.
12:54:43:12 AND THE ARLINGTON I'VE KNOWN FOR
12:54:45:07 20 YEARS SHOULD BE PROUD TO BE
12:54:49:02 ASSOCIATED WITH THAT AND WOULD
12:54:51:10 NOT CUT FUNDING.
12:54:53:29 JUST A FEW WEEKS AGO, THE
12:54:55:27 SUPREME COURT VINDICATED TJ'S
12:54:58:13 APPROACH AS THE LAWFUL WAY FOR
12:55:01:22 FOSTERING DIVERSITY IN THE
12:55:04:00 POST-AFFIRMATIVE ACTION WORLD
12:55:05:09 THAT WE NOW LIVE IN.
12:55:07:18 AND THIS CASE MADE NATIONAL
12:55:08:29 HEADLINES.
12:55:09:27 AND IF ARLINGTON WERE TO WALK
12:55:10:28 AWAY NOW --
12:55:12:09 [BUZZER]
12:55:15:27 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:55:17:01 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:55:19:10 >> I'LL CALL THE NEXT FIVE
12:55:20:15 SPEAKERS TO LINE UP.
12:55:23:17 MARY, JOSH, JOSH, DANIELLE,
12:55:29:04 JUNE.
12:55:30:12 NEXT SPEAKER, MARIA MCLEAN.

12:55:42:07 >> HELLO.
12:55:44:25 I'LL BE SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF
12:55:46:03 THE OUTDOOR LAB'S BUDGET AS IN
12:55:49:25 DON'T CUT IT.
12:55:51:17 WHAT I'D LIKE TO SAY TONIGHT IS
12:55:53:05 THE HARM OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET
12:55:55:04 CUTS AT THE OUTDOOR LAB TO THE
12:55:56:23 CHILDREN OF APS FAR OUTWEIGHS
12:55:58:15 THE COST SAVINGS THAT WOULD BE
12:56:00:00 ACCRUED.
12:56:01:08 BY WAY OF BACKGROUND, I AM A
12:56:02:07 RETIRED BOTH SCIENCE TO ENGLISH
12:56:05:02 LANGUAGE LEARNERS AND OUTDOOR
12:56:06:17 LEARNING TEACHER IN APS AS WELL
12:56:08:01 AS FAIRFAX.
12:56:09:00 I AM ALSO A CERTIFIED NATURALIST
12:56:11:12 IN FAIRFAX AND FOR NATURE
12:56:15:05 FORWARD.
12:56:15:26 MY THREE CHILDREN WENT ALL THE
12:56:17:07 WAY THROUGH APS AND WERE ABLE TO
12:56:19:09 EXPERIENCE THE OUTDOOR LAB AT
12:56:21:11 ALMOST EVERY LEVEL, INCLUDING
12:56:23:02 HIGH SCHOOL.
12:56:23:20 I AM AN OUTDOOR LAB VOLUNTEER.
12:56:26:10 AS A SCIENCE TEACHER, I KNOW HOW
12:56:27:29 IMPORTANT IT IS TO KEEP THIS
12:56:30:13 PROPOSED POSITION THAT WOULD BE
12:56:32:04 CUT TO CONNECT THE LAB TO
12:56:35:09 SCIENCE TEACHERS IN THE
12:56:36:20 CLASSROOM.
12:56:38:04 LOSING THE POSITION WOULD ALSO
12:56:39:18 THREATEN THE CONTINUATION OF THE
12:56:42:01 STUDENTS' FIFTH GRADE OVERNIGHT
12:56:43:16 TRIPS.
12:56:45:00 WHILE IT IMPACTS ALL FIFTH
12:56:46:01 GRADERS, IT PARTICULARLY IMPACTS
12:56:48:17 THOSE WHO CANNOT EITHER AFFORD
12:56:51:03 TRIPS TO NATURAL AREAS OR WHOSE
12:56:53:14 PARENTS DO NOT HAVE THE TIME TO
12:56:55:10 EVEN TAKE THEM TO LOCAL COUNTY
12:56:56:29 PARKS DUE TO OTHER OBLIGATIONS.
12:57:00:21 IT WILL DEPRIVE OUR FIFTH
12:57:02:12 GRADERS OF A MORE EXTENDED AND
12:57:04:15 EFFECTIVE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN
12:57:06:09 ABOUT, CONNECT TO, ENHANCE CARE
12:57:09:25 FOR OUR NATURAL WORLD.
12:57:11:27 THIS CONNECTION AND CARING CAN
12:57:13:12 AFFECT NOT ONLY CHOICES OF
12:57:14:20 CAREER PATH BUT ALSO DIRECTLY

12:57:16:15 IMPACT THE DAILY CHOICES THAT
12:57:19:11 EACH PERSON CAN MAKE TO CREATE A
12:57:21:03 MORE SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE FOR
12:57:23:15 US IN THIS COUNTRY.
12:57:25:20 WHETHER IT IS BY WHAT THEY EAT,
12:57:27:19 HOW THEY GET PLACES, OR WHAT
12:57:29:11 THEY WEAR.
12:57:31:03 DEPRIVING OUR STUDENTS OF THE
12:57:32:02 BEST THAT THE OUTDOOR LAB CAN
12:57:35:00 OFFER IN TERMS OF ITS CURRICULUM
12:57:36:10 AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEEPEN
12:57:37:28 EXPERIENCE OF NATURE AFFORDED BY
12:57:40:14 OVERNIGHT TRIPS IS CONTRARY TO A
12:57:42:13 NUMBER OF ARLINGTON COUNTY
12:57:43:21 COMMITMENTS AND PROGRAMS.
12:57:45:09 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:57:46:00 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:57:47:21 >> MARIA?
12:57:53:02 >> GOOD EVENING.
12:57:55:13 I WOULD LIKE TO URGE THE SCHOOL
12:57:56:12 BOARD TO REJECT THE PROPOSAL IN
12:57:58:13 THE UPCOMING BUDGET TO ELIMINATE
12:58:00:02 THE OUTDOOR LAB COORDINATOR
12:58:02:10 POSITION.
12:58:02:28 SUCH A CUT WOULD HAVE
12:58:04:12 SIGNIFICANT DETRIMENTAL IMPACT
12:58:05:16 ON A PROGRAM THAT IS DEEPLY
12:58:06:28 IMPORTANT TO OUR STUDENTS.
12:58:08:10 THIS PROPOSAL IS IMPORTANT TO
12:58:08:28 ME, BECAUSE IT WAS MY
12:58:10:13 EXPERIENCES AT THE LAB THAT LED
12:58:13:03 ME TO MY NICHE AS A SCIENTIST.
12:58:16:22 I STARTED VISITING THE LAB ON
12:58:18:00 FIELD TRIPS AND WENT TO CAMP FOR
12:58:19:19 FIVE YEARS, VOLUNTEERED ON
12:58:21:01 BOARD, AND NOW WORK AS A SUMMER
12:58:22:18 STAFF MEMBER.
12:58:23:22 I'M NOW A SOPHOMORE IN COLLEGE
12:58:25:11 ON A RESEARCH TRACK WHO HAS USED
12:58:27:27 THE SKILLS I'VE LEARNED AT THE
12:58:29:09 LAB IN EVERY FACET OF MY BIOLOGY
12:58:32:05 DEGREE.
12:58:32:20 I FIND MYSELF AGAIN AND AGAIN
12:58:33:24 THINKING, I'VE DONE THIS BEFORE,
12:58:35:14 AT THE LAB.
12:58:36:05 IT IS NOT AN UNDERSTATEMENT TO
12:58:37:13 SAY THAT THE LAB FROM MY FIRST
12:58:39:24 OVERNIGHT IN FIFTH GRADE HAS LED
12:58:41:06 ME TO PURSUE A CAREER IN

12:58:42:19 SCIENCE.
12:58:43:13 BUT MY EXPERIENCE IS JUST ONE OF
12:58:44:25 MANY.
12:58:45:26 THE LAB PROVIDES HANDS-ON
12:58:47:10 S.T.E.M. LEARNING TO STUDENTS
12:58:48:08 WHO OTHERWISE WOULD HAVE FOUND
12:58:50:03 IT INACCESSIBLE.
12:58:51:09 THE TRADITION OF THE FIFTH GRADE
12:58:52:24 OVERNIGHT EXPOSES ALMOST EVERY
12:58:54:18 SINGLE APS STUDENT TO THE
12:58:57:10 OUTDOORS.
12:58:58:15 THERE ARE SO MEMBER STUDENTS WHO
12:59:00:00 RELEASED THROUGH THAT TRIP THAT
12:59:03:09 THEIR NICHE IS FOUND IN SCIENCE,
12:59:05:04 FIELDWORK, RESEARCH, OR
12:59:06:06 EDUCATION.
12:59:06:24 WE ARE CREATING THE SCIENTISTS,
12:59:08:21 ENVIRONMENTALISTS, AND EDUCATORS
12:59:10:07 OF OUR FUTURE.
12:59:11:22 FROM A VARIETY OF BACKGROUNDS
12:59:14:16 WHILE LIMITING FINANCIAL AND
12:59:16:18 MATERIAL BARRIERS.
12:59:17:16 THAT'S WHY THE COORDINATOR
12:59:18:07 POSITION IS INVALUABLE.
12:59:22:00 IT SUPPORTS THE STAFF ON-SITE.
12:59:23:26 WITHOUT THE COORDINATOR, THE
12:59:24:24 FIFTH GRADE OVERNIGHT THAT
12:59:26:02 PROVIDES SO MANY STUDENTS WITH
12:59:26:27 THE OPPORTUNITY TO REALIZE THEIR
12:59:28:12 NICHE IS IMPOSSIBLE TO UPHOLD.
12:59:30:27 I THEREFORE URGE THE SCHOOL
12:59:31:25 DISTRICT TO MAINTAIN THE
12:59:32:26 COORDINATOR POSITION AT THE
12:59:34:07 OUTDOOR LAB.
12:59:36:06 IT IS VITAL WE FOSTER THE
12:59:37:24 SCIENTIFIC GROWTH OF OUR
12:59:39:09 STUDENTS AND CONTINUE THE
12:59:40:00 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN APS AND THE
12:59:41:06 OUTDOOR LAB.
12:59:42:07 THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.
12:59:44:19 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
12:59:45:13 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
12:59:46:08 >> JOSH?
12:59:57:10 >> FOR ARTS IN THE SCHOOLS
12:59:59:18 MONTH, A HAIKU.
01:00:01:10 A BUDGET OF NEEDS, THIS PAYS
01:00:03:06 EMPLOYEES FAIRLY, STEP AND COLA
01:00:05:21 3.
01:00:06:12 GOOD EVENING.

01:00:06:27 FOR 15 YEARS, EMPLOYEES WATCHED
01:00:08:21 AS THE SCHOOL SYSTEM GREW ON
01:00:11:09 THE -- THE BUDGET GREW ON THEIR
01:00:13:08 BACK.
01:00:14:03 WE SKIPPED STEPS FOUR TIMES AND
01:00:16:14 COST OF LIVING TEN TIMES.
01:00:18:09 FOR MORE THAN A DECADE, WE GREW
01:00:19:29 SERVICES ALL WHY THE PUBLIC
01:00:21:07 LARGELY ACCEPTED THOSE CUTS TO
01:00:23:06 EMPLOYEE PAY.
01:00:24:20 IN RESTAURANT TERMS, FOR 15
01:00:25:29 YEARS, THE PEOPLE OF ARLINGTON
01:00:27:23 GOT TO GO OUT FOR DINNER BUT
01:00:29:16 COULDN'T AFFORD THE GRATUITY.
01:00:31:12 THAT HAS FINALLY CHANGED.
01:00:33:01 WHILE A STEP IN COLA OF 1% WAS
01:00:35:00 INCLUDED, IT IS THE LOWEST IN
01:00:36:29 THE REGION.
01:00:39:17 AND WHILE NOT GREAT AND MY TOTAL
01:00:42:28 INCREASE JUST BEING 2%, IT HAS
01:00:45:04 COME AT THE EXPENSE OF
01:00:47:05 ELEMENTARY PLANNING TIME.
01:00:49:10 ONCE AGAIN, EMPLOYEES ARE LEFT
01:00:50:15 WITH A CHOICE OF BEING PAID
01:00:52:04 FAIRLY OR HAVING THE TOOLS TO DO
01:00:54:06 THEIR JOB.
01:00:55:07 AND NOW WITH A \$10 MILLION GAP
01:00:57:06 AND ALL OPTIONS ON THE TABLE, WE
01:00:59:08 ACTUALLY HAVE A ROOM FILLED WITH
01:01:00:20 PEOPLE CONCERNED ABOUT THE
01:01:01:24 BUDGET AND TO EACH OF THEM, I
01:01:03:24 SAY WELCOME TO OUR FIGHT.
01:01:05:23 WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER.
01:01:07:18 AND I HOPE THAT EACH OF OUR NEW
01:01:09:17 ADVOCATES HAVE E-MAILED COUNTY
01:01:11:12 BOARD AT ARLINGTON VA DOT U.S.
01:01:14:27 AND ASKED FOR MORE FINANCIAL
01:01:16:19 SUPPORT.
01:01:17:10 STEP PLUS 1 IS ONE OF THE LOWEST
01:01:19:15 PROPOSED INCREASES IN THE REGION
01:01:20:27 WITH MANY EMPLOYEES NOT EVEN
01:01:22:25 KEEPING UP WITH INFLATION.
01:01:24:24 MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, I HAVE
01:01:26:09 READ ALL 400 PAGES OF THE BUDGET
01:01:28:12 AND WILL SHARE MY IDEAS WITH YOU
01:01:30:01 LATER.
01:01:31:09 I ENCOURAGE YOU TO BE BOLD, DIG
01:01:33:14 DEEP, NOT BY LISTENING TO THE
01:01:36:02 LOUDEST VOICE.

01:01:37:04 I KNOW SOMETIMES I'M A LITTLE
01:01:38:19 LOUD.
01:01:39:07 BUT BY ENSURING THE CORE CLASSES
01:01:41:16 AND ACADEMIC SUPPORTS FOR OUR
01:01:42:24 MOST VULNERABLE LEARNERS IS
01:01:44:22 NUMBER ONE.
01:01:45:24 AND WE CAN ONLY DO THIS WITH
01:01:47:15 HIGHLY TALENTED AND FAIRLY
01:01:49:16 COMPENSATED STAFF AT ALL OF
01:01:52:08 ARLINGTON'S SCHOOLS.
01:01:53:09 THANK YOU.
01:01:54:00 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
01:01:56:01 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
01:01:56:26 >> JOSH?
01:02:07:07 >> GOOD EVENING, MEMBERS OF THE
01:02:08:23 BOARD, DR. DURAN, AND MY FELLOW
01:02:10:25 WORKERS.
01:02:11:10 A BUDGET IS NOT JUST THE DOLLARS
01:02:13:01 AND CENTS THAT FUND OUR SCHOOL
01:02:14:19 DISTRICT.
01:02:15:20 A BUDGET REALLY IS A LIST OF
01:02:17:09 PRIORITIES.
01:02:18:23 A BUDGET OUTLINES WHAT AN
01:02:20:04 ORGANIZATION FINDS MOST
01:02:21:08 IMPORTANT.
01:02:22:22 PAST ADMINISTRATIONS THROUGH
01:02:24:03 THEIR BUDGET HAVE PRIORITIZED
01:02:25:12 THE PEOPLE WHO WORK IN THIS
01:02:26:24 BUILDING INSTEAD OF THE STAFF
01:02:27:21 WHO DO THE WORK OF DELIVERING A
01:02:29:17 TOP-NOTCH EDUCATION TO OUR
01:02:31:15 DECISIONS IN THE CLASSROOM.
01:02:33:07 THAT SHOULD CHANGE.
01:02:34:21 IN THE PAST, STEPS WERE MISSED
01:02:36:06 AND COLAS WERE NOT GIVEN IN
01:02:38:15 ORDER TO BALANCE A BUDGET.
01:02:39:24 THAT CAUSES THE BUDGET TO BE
01:02:40:26 BALANCED ON THE BACKS OF OUR
01:02:42:05 HARDEST WORKING EMPLOYEES.
01:02:44:21 WHEN THIS HAPPENS, EDUCATORS
01:02:45:26 LOSE MONEY THAT IS NEVER FULLY
01:02:48:08 RECOVERED.
01:02:49:00 EVEN THOUGH WE RESTORED THE
01:02:50:18 STEPS MISSED IN THE MOST RECENT
01:02:52:10 COMPENSATION OVERHAUL WHICH I
01:02:54:06 COMMEND DR. DURAN AND THE BOARD
01:02:55:04 FOR UNDERTAKING, WE CAN NEVER
01:02:56:26 REPLACE THE MONEY THOSE
01:02:58:01 EDUCATORS LOST THAT THEY WILL

01:02:59:03 NEED TO RELY ON LATER IN LIFE
01:03:00:22 WHEN THEY RETIRE.
01:03:02:01 EVERY DECISION THIS BOARD MAKES
01:03:03:09 HAS SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE
01:03:06:00 LIVES OF THEIR EMPLOYEES.
01:03:07:12 FOR EXAMPLE, AS A MUSIC TEACHER,
01:03:08:21 APS GIVES ME A 16-INCH MAC BOOK
01:03:11:28 PRO WHICH RETAILS FOR ABOUT
01:03:13:06 \$3,000.
01:03:14:24 WHILE I'M DOING MY PLANNING,
01:03:15:27 THERE IS EXPOSED STEEL AND
01:03:17:03 INSULATION IN THE HALLWAY
01:03:18:07 OUTSIDE OF THE MUSIC WING IN
01:03:19:29 ASHLAWN.
01:03:20:27 THAT IS A CHOICE.
01:03:22:25 WHILE EVERY STUDENT IS ASSIGNED
01:03:23:27 A DEVICE DOWN TO GRADES THAT
01:03:25:22 PROBABLY SHOULD NOT HAVE THEM,
01:03:27:01 THERE ARE ESP'S, SOME OF OUR
01:03:29:04 HARDEST WORKING EMPLOYEES, WHO
01:03:30:16 WILL NEVER MAKE A LIVING WAGE IN
01:03:32:08 APS.
01:03:32:22 THAT IS A CHOICE.
01:03:34:04 CHANGING HEALTH CARE IN THE
01:03:34:21 MIDDLE OF A SCHOOL YEAR WITHOUT
01:03:36:10 PROPERLY COMMUNICATING TO STAFF
01:03:37:15 IS AGAIN A CHOICE.
01:03:39:18 AS WE TEACH OUR STUDENTS, WE
01:03:41:06 HAVE TO BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITY
01:03:42:14 FOR THE CHOICES THAT WE MAKE.
01:03:45:00 EXCEPT THE ONES WHO BEAR
01:03:46:08 RESPONSIBILITY FOR BUDGET
01:03:47:02 DECISIONS THAT ARE NOT THE ONES
01:03:48:28 WHO ARE DECIDING, IT'S THE
01:03:51:15 EDUCATORS AND STAFF WHO BEAR THE
01:03:52:24 REPERCUSSIONS FOR THE REST OF
01:03:54:03 THEIR CAREERS, THANK YOU.
01:03:56:02 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
01:03:57:20 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
01:04:00:21 >> DANIELLE JONES.
01:04:04:22 >> GOT A PRESENT FROM JOSH HERE!
01:04:06:15 [LAUGHTER]
01:04:10:22 >> GOOD EVENING.
01:04:12:17 I'M A DEDICATED APS EDUCATOR AND
01:04:14:16 PROUD MEMBER AND VICE PRESIDENT
01:04:15:18 OF AEA.
01:04:16:29 BEFORE I BEGIN, I KNOW THE
01:04:18:15 BUDGET IS TIGHT, SO I WANT TO
01:04:19:17 START BY ASKING EVERYONE WHO

01:04:21:02 CARES ABOUT OUR SCHOOLS TO
01:04:22:10 E-MAIL COUNTY BOARD@ARLINGTON VA
01:04:25:08 DOT U.S. TO ASK FOR MORE
01:04:27:17 FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR OUR
01:04:28:18 SCHOOLS.
01:04:29:06 THE SUPERINTENDENT'S BUDGET AND
01:04:30:04 I HAVE LARGELY THE SAME IDEA,
01:04:32:26 FOCUS ON STAFF PAY, BUT I SAY
01:04:35:13 INSTEAD OF ADDING BLOAT AT THE
01:04:38:12 TOP, FOCUS ON ENSURING EVERY
01:04:40:28 EMPLOYEE IS PAID A LIVING WAGE.
01:04:43:03 IN THE 2019 BUDGET, THE
01:04:43:21 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE WAS
01:04:45:02 ALLOCATED ALMOST 3.2 MILLION.
01:04:47:09 LAST YEAR, HIS OFFICE BUDGET WAS
01:04:48:24 ABOUT 5.1 MILLION.
01:04:50:09 I KNOW PRICES ARE GOING UP, BUT
01:04:51:22 1.9 MILLION OVER FIVE YEARS
01:04:54:07 SEEMS EXCESSIVE.
01:04:56:16 MEANWHILE, THE BUS DRIVES IN
01:04:57:24 ATTENDANCE ARE STARTING THEIR
01:04:59:03 DAY AT 7 a.m. AND OFTEN
01:05:00:11 FINISHING THEIR DAY AFTER 9
01:05:01:20 p.m., BECAUSE THEIR LOW
01:05:03:15 SALARIES FORCE THEM TO TAKE
01:05:05:01 SPORTS AND ACTIVITY TEAM RUNS
01:05:07:05 NOT TO GET AHEAD BUT MOSTLY KEEP
01:05:11:02 AFLOAT.
01:05:12:07 ONE JOB SHOULD BE ENOUGH.
01:05:13:24 EXTENDED DAY WORKERS STARTING
01:05:15:10 EARLY IN THE MORNING AND
01:05:16:04 STARTING THEIR SECOND SHIFT
01:05:17:19 AFTER SCHOOL AND WORKING INTO
01:05:18:24 THE EVENING, MANY PICK UP SHIFTS
01:05:21:07 AS LUNCHROOM ATTENDANTS TO TRY
01:05:23:25 AND BALANCE THEIR BUDGETS.
01:05:25:05 ONE JOB SHOULD BE ENOUGH.
01:05:27:09 CAFETERIA WORKERS ARRIVE EARLY
01:05:28:21 TO FEED OUR CHILDREN BREAKFAST
01:05:30:09 AND MOVE ON TO SECOND JOB AFTER
01:05:31:25 LUNCH BECAUSE MANY OF THEIR JOBS
01:05:33:16 DON'T EVEN PROVIDE BENEFITS AND
01:05:35:02 NONE OF THEM WILL EVER MAKE A
01:05:36:21 LIVING WAGE.
01:05:37:15 ONE JOB SHOULD BE ENOUGH.
01:05:40:07 FINALLY, I, AS AN INSTRUCTIONAL
01:05:42:06 ASSISTANT WITH NEARLY 20 YEARS
01:05:43:07 OF EXPERIENCE IN EDUCATION, DO
01:05:45:05 NOT MAKE A LIVING WAGE.

01:05:47:11 I SHOULD BE COACHING SPEECH AND
01:05:49:00 DEBATE JUST BECAUSE I LOVE IT,
01:05:50:16 WHICH I DO, NOT BECAUSE
01:06:03:19 [INAUDIBLE] ENOUGH.
01:06:04:18 MY POINT IS WE, YOUR EMPLOYEES,
01:06:06:19 GIVE ENOUGH.
01:06:07:14 WE WORK HARD AND POUR OUR HEARTS
01:06:09:09 INTO OUR JOBS.
01:06:11:24 MAKE A BUDGET THAT KEEPS US
01:06:13:29 WHOLE.
01:06:15:10 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
01:06:16:05 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
01:06:18:27 >> I'LL CALL THE NEXT FIVE
01:06:20:18 SPEAKERS TO LINE UP.
01:06:21:21 CHRISTOPHER, JAMES, CAMILLE,
01:06:26:27 DIMMA, CAMIE.
01:06:30:13 >> NEXT SPEAKER, CHRISTOPHER?
01:06:31:14 OH, I'M SORRY, NEXT SPEAKER,
01:06:39:04 DREW, I APOLOGIZE.
01:06:44:24 >> GOOD EVENING.
01:06:44:27 I'M THE PRESIDENT OF THE
01:06:48:02 ARLINGTON EDUCATION ASSOCIATION.
01:06:50:17 THE EDUCATION SYSTEM HAS BEEN
01:06:52:18 UNDERFUNDED FOR YEARS.
01:06:53:27 OUR SCHOOL SYSTEM IS BROKE.
01:06:56:15 COUNTLESS TIMES, I'VE STOOD AT
01:06:57:27 THIS PODIUM AND ASKED FOR THE
01:06:59:09 COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT OUR
01:07:00:20 EDUCATORS.
01:07:02:01 THE COMMUNITY SHOWS UP WHEN
01:07:03:09 FACED WITH THE LOSS OF EXTENDED
01:07:05:08 DAY SERVICES DUE TO BENEFIT
01:07:06:14 CUTS, REMEMBER THAT?
01:07:08:19 THEY SHOW UP IN DROVES WITH
01:07:10:07 CHARTS, RESEARCH, STUDENT
01:07:12:19 SPEAKERS WHEN THEY FEAR THEIR
01:07:13:27 SCHOOL COMMUNITY WILL BE
01:07:14:25 DISRUPTED.
01:07:16:03 COUNTLESS TIMES I'VE HEARD
01:07:17:14 EDUCATORS ARE HEROS, EDUCATORS
01:07:19:16 SHOULD BE PAID MORE, YET NO ONE
01:07:21:09 SHOWS UP FOR US.
01:07:23:01 I HAVE A KID AT HOME.
01:07:24:16 I'M TIRED TOO.
01:07:25:27 I HAVE A LIFE, BELIEVE IT OR
01:07:27:08 NOT.
01:07:28:02 I WORKED ALL DAY TOO.
01:07:29:18 BUT YET I'M HERE.
01:07:31:19 PEOPLE SHOW UP WHEN IT WILL

01:07:32:24 PERSONALLY AFFECT THEM.
01:07:34:02 EDUCATORS AND PTA'S WITH GOOD
01:07:38:22 INTENT HAVE SUBSIDIZED THE
01:07:39:24 SYSTEM FOR SO LONG, THAT IT'S
01:07:41:16 BECOME THE NORM.
01:07:43:07 COLLECTIVELY OUR EDUCATORS FEEL
01:07:45:03 POWERLESS BUT THAT COULDN'T BE
01:07:46:28 FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH.
01:07:48:23 FOR THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW, THIS
01:07:50:05 IS A FORM OF PROTEST IN WHICH
01:07:52:01 EMPLOYEES DO EXACTLY WHAT IS
01:07:54:10 STATED IN THEIR CONTRACTS AND
01:07:55:09 NOTHING MORE.
01:07:56:01 A FEW EXAMPLES.
01:07:57:22 ASSISTANTS NOT COVERING FOR
01:07:59:00 ABSENT OR UNAVAILABLE
01:08:00:09 COLLEAGUES.
01:08:01:16 NO CONFERENCES OUTSIDE OF
01:08:02:21 CONFERENCE DAYS.
01:08:04:03 NO SENDING EMAILS BEFORE OR
01:08:05:14 AFTER CONTRACT HOURS.
01:08:07:12 NO VOLUNTEERING FOR IDEAS OR
01:08:09:11 ADDITIONAL TASKS.
01:08:11:02 NO UNDERTAKING WORK BEYOND WHAT
01:08:12:20 IS CONTRACTED.
01:08:14:24 UNPOPULAR OPINION?
01:08:16:19 DON'T SIGN UP FOR SUMMER SCHOOL.
01:08:18:12 WE MUST SHOW UP AT WORK, BUT
01:08:19:21 HERE'S WHERE WE DON'T HAVE TO
01:08:21:07 GO.
01:08:22:01 ABOVE AND BEYOND, OUT OF OUR
01:08:23:06 WAY, THE EXTRA MILE.
01:08:24:23 DO I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION YET?
01:08:26:28 SHOW UP, PAY EDUCATORS MORE.
01:08:29:14 THANK YOU.
01:08:31:08 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
01:08:32:13 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
01:08:34:11 >> CHRISTOPHER?
01:08:34:22 NEXT SPEAKER, JAMES HARLOW.
01:08:47:25 >> GOOD EVENING.
01:08:48:29 MY NAME IS JAMES HARLOW AND I'M
01:08:50:15 A PARENT OF TWO CHILDREN AT
01:08:52:16 ABINGDON ELEMENTARY AS WELL AS
01:08:54:04 THE PRESIDENT OF THE ABINGDON
01:08:55:26 PARENT/TEACHER ASSOCIATION.
01:08:58:07 I'M HERE TO ADDRESS TWO MATTERS
01:08:59:13 OF GREAT CONCERN IN THE PROPOSED
01:09:01:09 BUDGET TO THE ABINGDON
01:09:02:03 COMMUNITY.

01:09:03:01 THE FIRST IS THAT THE PROPOSED
01:09:04:16 BUDGET DOES NOT MAINTAIN FUNDING
01:09:06:21 FOR ABINGDON'S SECOND ASSISTANT
01:09:08:26 PRINCIPAL.
01:09:10:10 ABINGDON IS EXCEPTIONAL IN SIZE
01:09:13:27 AND THE SIZE OF ITS NEEDS.
01:09:17:04 IT'S THE LARGEST ELEMENTARY
01:09:18:00 SCHOOL IN ARLINGTON COUNTY WITH
01:09:20:08 740 STUDENTS.
01:09:21:13 WE HAVE MORE THAN 290 ENGLISH
01:09:23:17 LEARNERS, MORE THAN 100 ARE
01:09:27:16 CLASSIFIED AS DISABILITY.
01:09:29:11 AS TITLE 1 SCHOOL, WE HAVE MORE
01:09:30:17 THAN 40% OF OUR STUDENT
01:09:32:02 POPULATION QUALIFIES FOR FREE
01:09:34:04 AND REDUCED LUNCH.
01:09:36:07 THAT POPULATION IS NEARLY EQUAL
01:09:37:12 TO THE TOTAL ENROLLMENT AT
01:09:39:10 NOTTINGHAM ELEMENTARY, YET
01:09:42:08 NOTTINGHAM AND ABINGDON HAVE THE
01:09:45:04 EXACT SAME AMOUNT OF
01:09:46:05 ADMINISTRATORS UNDER THE
01:09:47:09 PROPOSED BUDGET.
01:09:48:24 ABINGDON SIMPLY CANNOT FUNCTION
01:09:50:16 WITHOUT TWO ASSISTANT
01:09:52:07 PRINCIPALS.
01:09:53:15 UNDER THE CURRENT SCHEME WITH
01:09:54:26 ONE PRINCIPAL AND TWO ASSISTANT
01:09:56:24 PRINCIPALS, THAT AMOUNTS TO ONE
01:09:59:09 ADMINISTRATOR PER 246 STUDENTS.
01:10:02:04 IF WE TAKE AWAY ONE ASSISTANT
01:10:03:26 PRINCIPAL, THE RATIO JUMPS TO
01:10:07:01 ONE ADMINISTRATOR TO 370
01:10:09:02 STUDENTS.
01:10:10:16 STUDENTS WOULD SUFFER
01:10:11:26 EDUCATIONALLY AND EMOTIONALLY.
01:10:14:09 STAFF WOULD SUFFER INCREASED
01:10:15:17 STRESS AND BURNOUT.
01:10:17:19 BUT YOU DON'T NEED TO TAKE MY
01:10:19:12 WORD FOR IT.
01:10:20:16 THE ABINGDON PTA HAS BEEN
01:10:22:25 CANVASSING STAFF MEMBERS AND
01:10:23:27 THESE ARE SOME OF THEIR QUOTES.
01:10:25:29 THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NO WAY THAT
01:10:26:24 ABINGDON WILL FUNCTION AT THE
01:10:28:15 LEVEL WE'RE AT WITH TWO
01:10:29:17 ADMINISTRATORS.
01:10:30:04 AND ANOTHER, THAT I RELY HEAVILY
01:10:32:10 WHEN OUR AP TO ASSISTANT IN

01:10:33:23 CLASSROOM OBSERVATION, STUDENT
01:10:35:08 SUPPORT AND STUDENT BEHAVIOR
01:10:36:18 WITH OVER 700 STUDENTS, I DON'T
01:10:38:08 SEE HOW ONE AP WILL BE ABLE TO
01:10:40:10 SUPPORT EVERY CLASSROOM.
01:10:43:05 THE PROPOSED BUDGET PROPOSES TO
01:10:47:12 CONVERT THREE EXTRA ASSISTANT
01:10:50:10 PRINCIPALS --
01:10:52:18 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
01:10:54:12 DO YOU WANT TO GIVE US THE LAST
01:10:55:14 COUPLE SENTENCES, WE'RE HAPPY TO
01:10:56:26 TAKE YOUR COMMENTS AND WE CAN
01:10:58:01 READ IT.
01:10:58:19 >> OH, SURE.
01:10:59:24 WE'LL SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS
01:11:01:18 ONLINE, THESE ARE BULLETS.
01:11:03:01 >> NEXT SPEAKER, CAMILLE.
01:11:10:13 >> HELLO.
01:11:11:18 I'M SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE
01:11:13:03 APE.
01:11:14:25 SINCE APS HAS A STRUCTURAL BUTT
01:11:16:13 DEFICIT, WE ASK THE BOARD TO
01:11:17:22 CONSIDER CHANGING ITS DEVICE
01:11:19:04 POLICY.
01:11:20:01 THE PRE-K THROUGH SECOND GRADE
01:11:23:00 1:1 POLICY SHOULD BE CANCELED.
01:11:25:12 IT'S WHOLLY UNNECESSARY AND WAS
01:11:27:24 INTRODUCED AS AN EMERGENCY
01:11:29:03 MEASURE IN 2020.
01:11:30:01 THE 1:1 POLICY FOR THIRD TO
01:11:32:03 FIFTH GRADERS SHOULD BE REDUCED
01:11:33:11 TO FEWER DEVICES SHARED BY THE
01:11:35:14 WHOLE SCHOOL IF NOT ALSO
01:11:37:12 ELIMINATED.
01:11:38:10 GRADE 6 AND UP SHOULD TRANSITION
01:11:40:08 TO PC LAPTOPS TO PROMOTE WORD
01:11:42:15 PROCESSING AND KEYBOARDING OVER
01:11:44:18 VIDEOS AND SWIPING.
01:11:45:20 THE 1:1 IPAD POLICY COSTS APS
01:11:50:15 MILLIONS IN PURCHASES, REPAIRS,
01:11:53:29 AND REPLACEMENTS.
01:11:54:27 SAVINGS FROM REDUCING DEVICES
01:11:58:14 SHOULD BE REALLOCATED TO TIER 1
01:12:00:16 SUPPORT, HIRING MORE TEACHERS
01:12:02:04 AND REDUCING CLASS SIZES.
01:12:05:11 NEUROLOGY AND EDUCATION RESEARCH
01:12:06:15 AGREES THAT ELEMENTARY LEVEL
01:12:07:27 SKILLS ARE MORE EFFECTIVELY
01:12:09:19 TAUGHT USING MULTISENSORY

01:12:11:06 METHODS, INCORPORATING PHYSICAL
01:12:12:22 MOVEMENT INTO AUDITORY
01:12:14:16 INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES.
01:12:17:15 iPADS PRODUCE OVERLY VISUAL
01:12:19:10 INPUT WHICH CAUSES STARING FOR
01:12:22:06 EXTENDED PERIODS OF TIME AND THE
01:12:24:25 BRIGHT SCREENS INCREASE
01:12:26:19 ALERTNESS SIMILAR TO THE EFFECT
01:12:27:24 OF CAFFEINE WHICH CAN
01:12:29:15 OVERSTIMULATE KIDS.
01:12:31:00 EXCESSIVE TABLET USE IMPACTS
01:12:32:25 SOCIAL AND MOTOR SKILL
01:12:34:03 DEVELOPMENT IN YOUNG CHILDREN.
01:12:37:18 MIDDLE SCHOOLERS ARE VULNERABLE
01:12:39:09 TO THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF SCREEN
01:12:40:14 ADDICTION.
01:12:42:02 SOCIAL MEDIA USAGE LEADS TO
01:12:42:27 SERIOUS MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES
01:12:43:21 LIKE ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION.
01:12:46:06 USING iPADS AT SCHOOL IS
01:12:48:14 PRIMING STUDENTS OF ALL AGES TO
01:12:51:13 BECOME ADDICTED TO PHONES.
01:12:53:12 FINALLY, TABLETS AND PHONES
01:12:55:08 INCREASE ADHD WHILE COMPUTERS DO
01:13:01:07 NOT.
01:13:01:28 BUT IT FEELS LIKE WE'RE USING
01:13:04:10 TECHNOLOGY JUST TO USE
01:13:05:08 TECHNOLOGY.
01:13:05:25 PC LAPTOPS ARE MORE APPROPRIATE
01:13:07:07 FOR LEARNING.
01:13:08:21 THEY PROMOTE PRODUCING OVER
01:13:11:09 CONSUMING AT A QUARTER OF THE
01:13:12:25 COST.
01:13:14:00 WE'VE LEARNED A LOT IN FOUR
01:13:15:02 YEARS --
01:13:15:25
01:13:16:23 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
01:13:19:04 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
01:13:22:15 >> DIMMA?
01:13:27:03 >> GOOD EVENING, MEMBERS OF THE
01:13:29:01 SCHOOL BOARD AND DR. DURAN.
01:13:31:16 I'M HERE ON BEHALF OF THE
01:13:32:15 ARLINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL OF
01:13:34:09 PTA'S.
01:13:36:01 LAST NIGHT, OUR MEMBERS APPROVED
01:13:37:06 A STATEMENT WHICH WE WILL BE
01:13:38:21 SENDING TO YOU ON THE PROPOSED
01:13:40:00 BUDGET AND THE OVERALL
01:13:41:08 STRUCTURAL DEFICIT WE FACE.

01:13:43:10 FOR YEARS, APS HAD DEPENDED ON
01:13:46:06 RESERVES AND ONE-TIME FUNDS AS A
01:13:47:26 STOP GAP MEASURE RATHER THAN
01:13:49:21 CLEARLY ARTICULATING NEEDS AND
01:13:51:06 THEN RETHINKING SYSTEMS,
01:13:52:28 FORMULAS, AND PLANNING FACTORS
01:13:54:07 AND SO FORTH TO BRING ABOUT
01:13:56:06 EFFICIENCIES TO MEET THESE
01:13:57:00 NEEDS.
01:13:58:08 IT IS CRITICAL THAT APS PLACES
01:13:59:25 ITSELF ON A FISCALLY SUSTAINABLE
01:14:01:21 TRACK.
01:14:02:18 WE NEED CLEAR, WELL-DOCUMENTED
01:14:05:07 RATIONALES FOR CURRENT SPENDING
01:14:07:00 AND STREAMLINED ALLOCATION OF
01:14:08:21 RESOURCES SO THAT TRADE-OFFS AND
01:14:11:21 CHANGES THAT ALIGN WITH OUR
01:14:13:00 COMMUNITY VALUES CAN BE MADE AND
01:14:14:04 ACCEPTED BY OUR COMMUNITY.
01:14:16:13 WE SEE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHANGE
01:14:18:01 BY EVALUATING CURRENT
01:14:19:25 INVESTMENTS TO SEE WHAT TYPE IS
01:14:21:14 MOST EFFECTIVE FOR SUCCESSFUL
01:14:23:05 OUTCOMES AND TO CLOSE
01:14:24:23 ACHIEVEMENT GAPS.
01:14:26:15 WE ALSO RECOMMEND THAT APS AND
01:14:27:23 THE COUNTY CONSOLIDATE
01:14:29:10 TRANSPORTATION, BECAUSE USE OF
01:14:31:12 THE CURRENT SYSTEMS IS NOT
01:14:32:17 MAXIMIZED AND CONSOLIDATION
01:14:34:28 WOULD EXPAND COMMUNITY ACCESS TO
01:14:36:10 SCHOOLS.
01:14:38:00 WE FULLY SUPPORT THE BUDGET'S
01:14:39:19 PRIORITIZATION OF INCREASING
01:14:40:27 COMPENSATION TO TEACHERS, STAFF,
01:14:42:25 AND SUBSTITUTES.
01:14:44:13 THE PRESERVATION OF OUR VIP
01:14:46:22 PROGRAM AND THE NEED FOR TITLE
01:14:47:17 IX COORDINATOR.
01:14:49:05 WE BELIEVE THAT THERE IS VALUE
01:14:50:29 IN CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE
01:14:52:00 POSITIONS WHEN THEY BRING
01:14:53:08 CONSISTENCY AND POLICY AND
01:14:55:07 PRACTICES ACROSS OUR SCHOOLS.
01:14:57:13 WITH REGARDS TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES,
01:14:59:01 WE BELIEVE THAT APS CAN ASSIST
01:15:01:24 IN POOLING RESOURCES, USING ITS
01:15:03:22 BULK PURCHASING POWER, AND
01:15:05:01 DIRECTING THESE RESOURCES TO

01:15:06:07 WHERE THEY'RE MOST NEEDED WITHIN
01:15:07:25 THE COUNTY TO REDUCE THIS BURDEN
01:15:09:07 ON SCHOOL STAFF.
01:15:10:12 WE REMAIN CONCERNED THAT THE
01:15:11:13 LACK OF FIELD TRIPS FUNDING
01:15:13:12 WHICH ONLY INCREASES DISPARITIES
01:15:15:11 BETWEEN SCHOOLS.
01:15:17:02 WE UNDERSTAND THAT THESE ARE ALL
01:15:18:24 CHALLENGING ISSUES AND WE ARE
01:15:19:28 READY TO CONTINUE WORKING WITH
01:15:21:14 YOU TO BEST SUPPORT APS
01:15:23:19 STUDENTS, THANK YOU.
01:15:24:20 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
01:15:26:12 NEXT SPEAKER, PLEASE.
01:15:27:16 >> THE NEXT AND LAST SPEAKER,
01:15:29:11 CAMI SITMAN.
01:15:36:15 >> HI.
01:15:37:01 I AM A MOM TO TWINS AT CLAREMONT
01:15:43:07 IMMERSION SCHOOL WHO ARE HERE
01:15:44:26 TONIGHT, ALI AND ANDREW.
01:15:48:03 AND I JUST AM HERE BECAUSE
01:15:50:04 FUNDAMENTALLY BECAUSE WE'RE
01:15:51:05 HAPPY PARENTS!
01:15:52:26 WE HAVE SEEN OUR KIDS LEARN AND
01:15:54:08 GROW AND SEEN THEIR SPANISH
01:15:56:23 SKILLS IMPROVE SO DRAMATICALLY
01:15:59:27 THIS YEAR IN PARTICULAR.
01:16:01:08 AND SO I JUST WANTED TO TAKE A
01:16:02:14 MOMENT TO EXPRESS MY SUPPORT FOR
01:16:04:19 THE 80-20 MODEL AT CLAREMONT AND
01:16:07:24 KEY AND TO ASK FOR ITS
01:16:09:27 CONTINUATION INTO THE SECOND
01:16:13:19 GRADE.
01:16:15:03 IT'S BEEN CALLED A PAUSE, BUT
01:16:16:19 FOR OUR KIDS, IT WON'T BE.
01:16:18:16 AND SO AS MY DAUGHTER -- THE
01:16:21:21 SIGN MY DAUGHTER MADE SAYS "MORE
01:16:27:17 SPANISH, PLEASE."
01:16:28:26 >> THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.
01:16:30:14 IF A FOLLOW-UP IS REQUIRED DUE
01:16:32:09 TO THE NATURE OF THE COMMENTS,
01:16:33:14 THE SUPERINTENDENT WILL WORK
01:16:34:03 WITH THE APPROPRIATE STAFF TO
01:16:36:21 RESPOND ACCORDINGLY FOLLOWING
01:16:38:03 THE BOARD MEETING.
01:16:39:25 THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR
01:16:40:26 SPEAKERS.
01:16:41:27 BOARD MEMBERS, IS THERE ANY NEW
01:16:43:12 BUSINESS?

01:16:45:03 HEARING NONE, THIS MEETING IS

01:16:46:12 ADJOURNED.

01:16:47:06

01:18:29:18